DISTRICT CENSUS REPORT.

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF HOWRAH, 1891.

V

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DISTRICT CENSUS REPORT.

No. 293C., dated Howrah, the 2nd April 1892.

From—G. A. GRIERSON, Esq., Magistrate of Howrah,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

WITH reference to your Circular No. 28, dated the 4th December 1891, I have the honour to submit the Census Report, drafted according to the instructions contained in your circular No. 6T.F., dated the 3rd October 1891.

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF HOWRAH, 1891.*

HEAD I.—EARLY HISTORY, ETC.

1. *Distribution of Population.*—About the middle of the 9th century, during Raja Ballal Sen's reign, Bengal was divided into five provinces, viz, Rarh, Bagri, Banga, Barendra, and Mithila, which were separated from each other by the courses of the Ganges and the Pudda in Lower Bengal, and the Karataya and the Mahananda in Upper Bengal. These divisions correspond to some extent with modern divisions, viz, Rarh corresponding in part with the Burdwan Division, Bagri with the Presidency Division, Banga with the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions, Barendra with the Rajshahi Division, and Mithila with Bihar. One of these divisions was assigned to each of the five orders of Brahmans and Kayasthas who were brought down by Raja Ballal Sen from Kanauj in Northern India, and who took their distinctive caste names from the names of these divisions. The district of Howrah is the southernmost part of Rarh, *i.e.*, the tract lying west of the Hooghly and south of the Ganges. Rarh is said to correspond with the area comprising the districts of Burdwan, Birbhum, Hooghly and Howrah. Rarh was subdivided into two parts—Northern Rarh and Southern Rarh—by the river Ajoy, which flows through the districts of Birbhum and Burdwan and meets the Hooghly. Howrah comes within the limits of the Dakhin-Rarh, from which the Kayasthas living in this part are called the Dakhin-Rarhi. The other districts of the Burdwan Commissionership, viz., Bankura and Midnapore, which partly adjoin the four districts mentioned above, are portions of Mallabhoom, *i.e.*, territories under the kings of the Malla Dynasty, and lie outside the pale of Rarh.

2. The northern portion of the district bordering on the Ganges was originally peopled by the higher order of the Hindu castes, viz., the Brahman and the Kayastha, and the southern parts by agricultural groups of Kaibartta, Sadgops, Barui and others. The proportion of semi-Hinduised aboriginal element, such as Bagdi and Kaora, is also large in the tracts lying east of the Rupnarain opposite Midnapore. The extensively wide range of castes, which are now found to live in the Sadar subdivision of Howrah, were not the original residents of the place. Recent immigration from several other districts of Bengal, Bihar, Chota Nagpur, the North-Western Provinces and other distant countries, has increased the caste number manifold. They have come to settle here for various employments, which new industries, mills and manufactories have given rise to within the Sadar subdivision of the district. The Muhammadan element preponderates in thanas Jagatballabhpur and North Ulubaria. A detailed description of caste is given under its proper head. The above gives an idea of the general distribution of population.

3. *Boundary and area.*—The boundary of the district is as follows:—On the north, the Bally *khal* and the southern limit of the Hooghly district, an artificial line running in a westerly direction from the mouth of the Bally *khal*, passing north of the village Bally on the Hooghly to the Damodar river; thence about eight miles up the river Damodar, and thence again west to the Rupnarain. On the west and south the district is bounded by the Rupnarain, and on the east by the Hooghly. It lies between 22° 13′ 15″ and 22° 47′ north latitude, and between 87° 47′ and 88° 24′ 15″ east longitude. The total area is 476 square miles, and though the smallest in area, the most thickly populated district in Bengal.

4. *Jurisdiction.*—Prior to 1819, Howrah with Hooghly formed a part of the Burdwan Collectorate. In 1819, the district of Hooghly with Howrah was formed to constitute a separate revenue jurisdiction. In 1841, the magisterial jurisdiction of Howrah, comprising *thanas* Rajapur (now called Jagatballabhpur), Amta, Kotra (now called Syampur), Bagnan and Ulubaria, was severed from Hooghly. The police circle of Dumjor was subsequently

* The report was drafted entirely under the supervision of Mr. Fiddian from whom Mr. Grierson took charge shortly before its submission.

added to this area. In 1864, the Howrah Municipality was constituted with an area of 11,005 acres. The *thana* boundaries have not been altered since 1872, except the western boundary of the Municipality, which was revised in 1879 under Government order No. 748 of the 10th September 1879, thus altering the eastern boundary of *thana* Dumjor. The Municipality of Howrah was subdivided into two parts, separating the villages Bally, Belur, and Barrackpore, which were made to constitute a separate Municipality in 1882-83. This is named the Bally Municipality, and it consists of an area of 2 square miles. In Revenue and Civil Jurisdictions, the district of Howrah is still subordinate to the district of Hooghly.

5. The following statement gives an idea as to the change of area of the *thanas* of this district since the census in 1872:—

Name.	Area in square miles.		
	1872	1881.	1891.
1	2	3	4
Howrah Municipality ...	19	11	9
Bally „ ...			2
Dumjor	81	89	89
Jagatballabhpur... ...	73	73	73
Amta	103	103	103
Ulubaria	77	77	77
Bagnan	56	56	56
Syampur	67	67	67
Total ...	476	476	476

6. *Antiquities.—Other matters worth noticing in connection with the early history.*—The silting up of the Saraswati river, which once flowed through the heart of the Sadar subdivision of Howrah, was gradually completed in the 16th century. This historical river was the main channel of the Ganges, and the trading ships sailed up this channel to Satgaon near Hooghly, a port of great importance in the 14th century, at which place much of the royal custom duties were levied on exported and imported goods. The former existence of the river is now brought to men's mind by the *dahs* or chasms which were formed beyond the Saraswati embankment—the villages Makardah, Jhapardah, Bhandardaha, &c., which took their names after the *dahs*. In Makardah there were many factories of the Portuguese traders, who removed to Hooghly, then a small village on the navigable channel in 1537, when the Saraswati was fast drying up. This once famous river is now a shallow narrow creek, and meets the Hooghly near Sankrail. The influx of pilgrims from Ulubaria, Midnapore and other places in the south towards Howrah and Calcutta for bathing in the sacred water of the Ganges is owing to the fact that the present Hooghly river from Sankrail downwards is the old bed of the Saraswati. Another small instance of silting up of running water within the district of Howrah is the Kana Nadi in thana Jagatballabhpur. The large decrease of population in that *thana* within 1872 and 1881 was the result of this change. The channel of this old bed silted up at a much later period than the time when the Saraswati dried up.

7. There are two high towers at Mohiari and Bargachia, of about 165 feet in height. They are constructed of bricks in five successive stories, accessible by a long series of steps inside and the top being covered by flat roof. It is not definitely known when they were built and for what purpose. There is no inscription on the structure to enlighten us on the subject. Tradition has it that they were built in the early days of the British rule in Bengal, and served the purpose of telegraphic stations. Towers of the same size and description are still extant in the Jahanabad and Kalna subdivisions of the districts of

Hooghly and Burdwan, respectively, and in old days the flagmen posted on the top of each conveyed messages by flags from one station to another, the distance between two such towers being five miles. According to another version, the towers represent the survey pillars, but this version does not appear to be correct. There is no inscription on the walls of the towers, but it is certain that they were built by the English.

8. In the subdivision of Ulubaria the objects which associate our ideas with the old days are but few. The Damodar, which divides the subdivision into two parts, has changed its course in *thana* Amta. The old bed of the river is marked by the chasms at Dadkhali, Chota Moira, Baro Moira, Jaganathpur, Mansmari, Dhapa, and Milki, known as *dakas*. They are each about half a mile in length, and quarter of a mile in breadth. This old river was formerly accessible to sailing vessels. On its bank was situated the village Gobardhonepur, at a distance of a mile and-a-half from Bagnan, where there was a place called Jahajghatta, *i.e.*, anchoring stations for ships.

9. At a distance of about six miles from Amta lie the remains of the old fort of Raja Bharat Chandra Roy. It was constructed in the village Parua so as to have the Kana Nadi and an artificial ditch as boundaries of the fort. The ditch and a large tank still indicate the site. The only other objects of antiquity to which reference may be made are Fort Gloucester, not now traceable in village Bauria in thana Ulubaria, and Fort Mornington in village Makrapathar in *thana* Syampur.

10. It may be observed here that in very early days men settled in the *thanas* Dumjor and Jagatballabhpur (then called Rajapur), through which the ancient river Saraswati flowed. The eastern part of Amta, which lies close to the Said *thana* and contiguous to the district of Hooghly, also commanded some importance. The people who have settled within the municipal jurisdiction of Howrah have come to reside there at a much later date than the Muhammadan aimadars and low-caste Hindu traders of Jagatballabhpur, and the high-caste Hindus, viz., Brahmans and Kayesthas, in thana Dumjor, who predominate in villages Jhapardah, Makardah, Andul, Sankrail, &c. The density in the population in these quarters has considerably decreased, and it has very largely increased in the places now bordering the Ganges.

Head II.—Movement of the population.

11. *Increase and decrease of population since* 1872.—The comparative changes in the district population will appear from the following statement:—

Municipality or *thana*.	Both sexes.			Percentage of increase or decrease.		Remarks.
	1872.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Municipality, Howrah...	97,784	90,813	116,606	+8·02	+26·2	
„ Bally ...	...	14,815	16,700	...	...	
Thana Dumjor ...	119,037	128,477	147,749	+7·93	+15·0	
„ Jaggatballabhpur	80,243	77,539	85,241	—3·37	+9·9	
„ Ulubaria ...	69,906	81,345	87,696	+16·36	+7·8	
„ Amta ...	110,374	109,968	120,632	—·37	+9·7	
„ Bagnan ...	58,098	63,563	68,832	+9·41	+8·2	
„ Syampur ...	60,423	68,861	77,755	+13·96	+12·9	
Total ...	595,865	635,381	721,211	+6·63	+13·07	

It is evident from the statement that increase of population has occurred in all the *thanas* of this district within the last ten years. In both the censuses of 1872 and 1881 there was one municipality which has been split up into two independent municipalities since 1882-83. The increase within the municipal jurisdiction in the last census is threefold of what it was in the census of 1881. This large increase is owing to immigration from many parts of India to meet chiefly the increasing demand for labourers, artisans, and traders. More definite information as to the number of immigrants will be given later on. In *thana* Dumjor the increase in the last census is twofold of what it was in 1881. The crowded population of the municipal jurisdiction has spread over the adjoining villages of *thana* Dumjor to which the greater portion of the percentage of increase in that *thana* is limited. In *thana* Jagatballabhpur the result is conspicuous. The decrease of population in 1872 was ascribed to many deaths from fever on account of its extreme unhealthiness, and also the emigration of large numbers of shop-keepers, artisans, and *ferriwallas* to Calcutta. The increase of 9·9 per cent. of population in the present census has sufficient ground. The *thana* has much improved in its sanitation by draining stagnant water out of the *bils* between the Damodar and the Kana Nadi and of that between the Hooghly and the Saraswati by means of the Rajapur Canal. This scheme of irrigation has improved the condition of the land to such an extent that a *bigha* of it now fetches from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3, while it could hardly fetch annas 8 a few years ago. The reclamation of the soil is, however, the chief cause of this increase of population. It will be seen that in *thana* Ulubaria the increase was 16·3 in the census of 1881, whereas it is only 7·8 in the present census. The reason for this comparatively less increase is not far to seek. Ulubaria was the halting-place of travellers, pilgrims and traders from Midnapore and Orissa, and many other places in those parts to Calcutta and back. But, in consequence of the very great facility afforded by the steamer service, people do not now halt at Ulubaria. This has also caused a reduction of shops and diminution of trading people. In *thana* Amta there was a nominal diminution of population in the census of 1881, but at present the increase is not very inconsiderable. This increase is also owing to the reclamation of marshes and improvement of agriculture. Population in both the *thanas* of Bagnan and Syampur has increased, but the proportion of increase is a little less than it was in the census of 1881. In Bagnan, it is attributable to the fact of thinness of population in Mellock, Panitras and a few other riparian villages on the Rupnarain, which is encroaching upon the left bank and forming extensive *chars* on the right.

12. *Increase and decrease of population by sex since* 1872.—For an exposition of the increase of population by sex, I subjoin a statement and make the following observations. The male population in the town and in the more advanced *thana* predominates over the female, and the case is the converse in the other rural *thanas* of the district. The variations in the excess of females over males in the rural *thanas* are not readily explained.

Name of Thana and Municipality.	Male.			Female.			Percentage variation.		Percentage variation.	
							Male.		Female.	
	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872 to 1881.	1881 to 1891.	1872 to 1881.	1881 to 1891.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Howrah Municipality including Bally Municipality.	54,098	60,089	79,902	43,686	41,639	53,314	12·74	32 12	2·18	19·48
Dumjor	59,452	65,504	75,870	59,585	62,883	71,870	10·33	15·66	5·53	14·30
Jagatballabhpur .. .	37,564	36,020	40,197	42,079	41,519	45,044	—4·11	11·7	—2·72	8·49
Ulubaria	34,031	40,580	43,313	35,875	40,965	44,383	18·06	6·77	14·19	8·34
Amta	50,814	49,741	55,149	59,500	60,227	65,483	—2·11	10·89	1·12	8·72
Bagnan	27,411	30,305	32,754	30,687	33,258	36,078	10·56	8·08	8 38	8·48
Syampur	29,388	33,450	37,615	31,035	35,411	40,140	13 82	12·45	14·10	13·35
	292,758	316,479	364,890	303,107	318,902	356 321	8·10	...	5·21	...

13. *Growth of towns.*—There are only two towns in the district—Howrah and Bally—both of which are steadily growing. The statement below explains the nature of improvement observable in them:—

Changes of population within municipal jurisdiction.

Religion.	1872.	1881.	1891.		Remarks.
	Howrah including Bally.	Howrah including Bally.	Howrah.	Bally.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Hindus	79,335	81,547	86,219	14,945	
Musulmans	16,611	21,825	28,366	1,663	
Christians	1,484	1,928	1,867	39	
Buddhists	354	328	29	.....	
Brahmos			28	1	
Jains			7	4	
Jews			10	.....	
Parsis			.....	5	
Sonthal and other non-Hindu aboriginal tribes.			56	43	
Total ...	97,784	105,628	116,606	16,700	

In the census of 1872 and 1881, religions within municipal jurisdiction were classified as Hindu, Muhammadan, Christian and other religions, but in the present census, people of all religions have been distinguished. It will appear that, while the Hindus and Muhammadans have gradually increased, the Christians within municipal limits have decreased by 85, and the total of other religions has decreased by 145. The population of Howrah and Bally in 1881 was 90,813 and 14,815, respectively. The figures of the present census are 116,606 in Howrah and 16,700 in Bally. The number of villages in the district which have a population between 3,000 and 5,000 is only 7, between 2,000 and 3,000 is 16, between 1,000 and 2,000 is 101, between 500 and 1,000 is 250, between 200 and 500 is 488, and below 200 the number is 471. The total number of villages is 1,335, and the population as distributed into them is classified in the annexed statement:—

Comparative population in the villages in the district of Howrah.

	Number of villages with population from—						
	1 to 200.	200 to 500.	500 to 1,000.	1,000 to 2,000.	2,000 to 3,000.	3,000 to 5,000.	5,000 and over.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Howrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bally	...	..	...	...	...	...	1
Dumjor	36	70	47	36	9	4	...
Jagatballabhpur ...	80	75	35	18	2	...	...
Ulubaria	84	86	38	11	4	...	...
Amta	48	85	56	26	1	3	...
Bagnan	84	55	41	10	...	...	...
Syampur	169	117	33	...	...	...	...
Grand Total ...	501*	488	250	101	16	7	2

It may be noticed here that in the last census of 1881 the total number of villages was shown as 1,486, owing to a part of a village having been taken as a distinct unit.

* The number shown in the Bengal Census Report is 471.

14. *Urban and rural population.*—In this district a considerable proportion of the rural population is also semi-urban, and contributes largely to the artisan class. The urban population take to trade and service only for their mode of living. It is also a noteworthy fact that the rural population seldom migrate to any other district for employment or settlement, the small migration that is observable here in this respect being mostly confined to the urban population. In their customs, the difference of marriageable age observed is remarkable. The rural population always marry their females at a much earlier age than the people of the town. Among the Pod, Bagdi, and other low-caste Hindus, females are generally married between 5 and 9 years of age.

15. *Immigration.*—By an examination of Register No. IX it is found that immigration to this district is chiefly confined to the municipalities and Dumjor from distant places and other provinces and countries. The subjoined statement shows the large number of immigrants who come from Bihar.

The number of immigrants.

	Howrah.		Bally.		Dumjor.		Jagatballabhpur.		Uluberia.		Amta.		Bagnan.		Sampur.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Natives of the district ...	22,178	18,893	4,874	4,418	67,925	67,790	39,414	44,231	40,640	43,084	53,788	62,002	31,730	34,851	36,270	38,916
Burdwan Commissionership	12,807	14,703	1,588	1,518	4,120	2,850	374	570	1,025	502	1,112	3,323	722	1,082	870	606
Presidency ditto ...	2,001	2,296	426	312	478	787	54	85	529	655	49	73	58	95	295	578
Calcutta	524	735	89	49	43	54	7	6	14	...	5	2	...	3	...	1
Rajshahi Commissionership	29	04	40	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	7	...	2	...	...	...
Dacca ditto ...	713	173	51	12	42	9	3	81	57	9	0	1	16	2	4	...
Chittagong ditto ...	52	16	5	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Patna ditto ...	10,267	3,310	802	173	747	6	105	4	331	116	51	17	35	1	30	1
Bhagalpur ditto ...	1,438	423	151	19	63	2	11	...	17	...	9	3	8	...	7	...
Orissa ditto ...	2,240	189	165	8	785	14	115	...	459	13	67	49	42	11	26	...
Chota Nagpur ditto ...	200	103	317	86	1,115	70	31	40	2	...	4	...	1	1	...	1
North-Western Provinces ...	12,028	4,293	748	216	304	174	44	13	252	3	32	8	84	27	139	32
Oudh	805	171	137	35	42	12	8	4	0	...	14	...	43	...	13	...
The Panjab	108	413	10	8	7	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	2	...
Bombay	16	22	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Kuch Bihar	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rajputana	127	89	74	13	...	8	2	1	...	1	2	...	1	2	7	3
Central Provinces	287	76	28	4	184	30	28	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Deccan	4	7	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madras	23	6	1	...	8	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	...
Burma	15	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assam	175	16	4	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Manipur	21	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nepal	5	4	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cashmere	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cabul	12	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	0	...	5	...
Arabia	5	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
China	15	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Caucasus	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mauritius	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ceylon	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bagdad	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ireland	14	7	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scotland	72	21	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
English Channel	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
England	113	57	5	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
France	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Germany...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Belgium	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Italy	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poland	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Amsterdam	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Portugal...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hamburg	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malta	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heligoland	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trinidad	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Africa	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
America	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Baltic Sea	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New York	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
On sea	23	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Moran Pass	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Peterburg	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	70,477	49,129	9,515	7185	75,870	71,879	40,197	45,044	43,313	44,383	55,149	65,483	32,754	36,078	37,015	40,140

This large number has been brought in by the increasing demand for labourers and servants of all kinds. Immigrants from the North-Western Provinces are also numerous, and for the same reason. The European immigrants are only found within the municipalities. Immigrants from Arabia and other distant countries come chiefly for trading purposes.

15*a*. A comparative list of immigrants to this district is given in the margin in the statements below, from which it will be seen that in the course of the last ten years the number has much increased. Figures under this head in the census returns of 1872 were included with those of the district of Hooghly. Therefore any attempt to compare the decrease and increase of immigrants of that time with the figures of 1881 and 1891 will be misleading. In comparing the figures of the annexed statement, showing the number of immigrants of 1881 and 1891, the following points are to be specially noticed. The number of immigrants from the central and eastern districts of Bengal to Howrah has considerably decreased, but those from Bihar have largely increased. The districts of Bihar and Chota

Nagpur send a large number of the labouring class, and it will be interesting to note down the population that has come from each of the districts of the Province—

Birthplaces of population of Howrah.

NAMES OF PLACES.	1881.		1891.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5
Native	250,774	260,050	296,819	314,190
Burdwan Commissionership	30,452	34,087	26,058	25,233
Presidency ditto ...	5,242	5,619	4,490	5,183
Calcutta	1,027	1,199	652	850
Rajshahi Commissionership	57	39	80	68
Dacca ditto ...	1,018	285	892	287
Chittagong ditto ...	178	45	62	16
Patna ditto ...	6,938	2,452	12,368	3,083
Bhagalpur ditto ...	865	358	1,694	447
Orissa ditto ...	1,990	801	3,899	284
Chota Nagpur ditto ...	602	244	1,679	301
Unspecified	81	43	...	...
Other provinces within Indian Empire.	10,904	4,091	15,847	5,656
In Asia, out of Indian Empire.	57	12	82	19
Europe	268	94	252	97
America	10	3	5	...
Australasia	1	...	...	...
Indefinite	6	...	...	...
Africa	...	...	7	7
On sea	...	...	24	...
Total ...	316,479	318,902	364,890	356,321

NAME.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1	2	3	4
Shahabad	3,031	1,171	4,202
Saran	3,316	844	4,160
Patna	2,537	865	3,402
Gaya	1,546	446	1,992
Muzaffarpur	1,506	296	1,802
Monghyr	1,386	327	1,713
Champaran	235	61	296
Darbhanga	197	...	197
Sonthal Parganas	114	81	195
Bhagalpur	134	36	170
Purnea	54	3	57
Malda	6	...	6

So it appears that the poor people of the district, where means of employment is limited and the railway communication affords facility in travelling, have freely left their native district for Howrah.

HEAD III.—VARYING DENSITY OF POPULATION.

16. The changes in respect of density of population in the *thanas* and municipalities of the district since 1872 are shown in the statement in the margin. It appears from the statement that density per square mile is steadily increasing since 1872. The areas of all the thanas except Dumjor having remained unchanged since 1872, the comparison of figures can be very easily made as to the density of population in each *thana*, and it is found that in Ulubaria, Bagnan and Syampur, the density has grown steadily since 1872, and in Jagatballabhpur and Ampta there appears to have been a decrease in density in 1881. The density of the last-named *thanas* has, however, risen high in the present census. In consequence of the changes in the jurisdiction of the municipality, a comparison of the density of population cannot be fairly made from the figures shown in the statement. It appears

Density of population.

NAME OF THANA OR MUNICIPALITY.	1872.		1881.		1891.	
	Area in square miles.	Population per square mile.	Area in square miles.	Population per square mile.	Area in square miles.	Population per square mile.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Thana Dumjor	81	1,464	89	1,444	89	1,660
Do. Jagatballabhpur	73	1,099	73	1,092	73	1,167
Do. Ampta	104	1,071	103	1,068	103	1,171
Do. Ulubaria	77	908	77	1,050	77	1,138
Do. Bagnan	56	1,037	56	1,135	56	1,228
Do. Syampur	67	902	67	1,028	67	1,162
Municipality { Howrah	19	5,146	11	9,603	9	12,956
Municipality { Bally					2	8,350
District Howrah	476	1,252·6	476	1,334·83	476	1,515

from the census report of 1872 that in Howrah the density of village population was exceeded by no other district in Bengal, and in that of town population it stood second only to Calcutta and the suburbs of Calcutta.

Causes of the rise of density.

17. (*a*) *Influence of soil.*—In addition to the natural order of increase of human beings, the larger area of land brought under cultivation by the new system of drainage and introduction of new industries within the municipalities are the only two circumstances which may be cited for the comparatively increasing density in the Jagatballabhpur, Amta and Dumjor *thanas* respectively. The recent improvement of soil of the tract traversed by the Rajapur canal enables the cultivators to sow linseed and to grow potatoes, on which the poor people subsist entirely during the months of *Bhadro* and *Aswin*, *i.e.*, just before the winter (*haimanti*) crop is harvested. The annexed list of villages through which the canal passes, with the population of 1881 and 1891, will make clear the advantages rendered by the drainage scheme :—

Change of population in the villages affected by Howrah drainage scheme.

Villages.	Population.	
	1881.	1891.
Uttar Baxara	967	1,172
Dakhin do.	476	584
Betri	195	285
Chandbati	68	189
Thana Makua	814	968
Podra	684	1,223
Diulah	1,819	2,024
Piula	490	521
Santragachi	1,554	1,640
Baltikri	1,014	1,421
Bankra	1,338	1,827
Shalop	501	689
Katlia	1,148	1,348
Nibrah	954	1,123
Unshuni	1,744	1,980
Dharsa	551	639
Pakuria	313	433
Koolidanga	32	290
Kristarampur	213	296
Makordah	1,792	1,915
Pairatungi	588	677
Bamungachi	923	1,018
Uttar Bantra	174	246
Debiparah	468	596
Tetulkuli	374	455
Konah	1,073	1,412
Khalia	461	578
Lalooah	1,797	2,081
Chamrail	1,161	1,430
Jagadishpur	1,669	2,049
Bally	1,811	2,151
Lakhanpur	665	892
Dumjor	3,601	4,349
Bhandardaha	978	1,123
Prosasta	692	756
Beradingi	149	255
Jotgiri	542	645

(*b*) *New industries.*—The cotton mills in Goosery, jute mills and ropery in Ramkristopur and Sibpur and other places of industries, such as the docks and railway offices, brick-fields and timber yards, attract a large number of people to those villages of *thana* Dumjor which adjoin the municipalities. This fact goes to show the reason of the increasing density of population in that *thana* in spite of the declining state of certain native industries, such as jute-spinning, oil-making, manufacture of cocoanut shells, &c. The municipality is also the suburban residence of many European and native gentlemen who have business in Calcutta. A comparatively large number of people of the lower class who work in Calcutta take up lodgings in Howrah. No decay of the native industries can affect the density of population of the district, as new industries are springing up and affording ready employment to many.

18. *Summary.*—In making a summary of the density of the population throughout the district, it is necessary to point out that this district has an average density of 1,515·15 persons to the square mile, which was not attained by any other district in Bengal including the 24-Parganas. The most populous part is a narrow strip stretching from Howrah along the bank of the Ganges, making up one long suburb of Sibpur, Howrah, Ghoosery, and Bally, the density of population in which varies from 8,000 to 12,000 per square mile. The second populous strip is along the bank of the Saraswati and Kunti khal. The principal villages on it are Baluti, Dumjor, Jhapardah, Makardah, Mohiari and Andul. Below Andul the Saraswati joins the Hooghly, and the populous strip continues thence along the bank of the combined river. The population per square mile of this tract varies from 1,000 to 3,000.

The other portions of the district are not so thickly populated as these, but nowhere in the rural *thanas* of the Sadar subdivision as well as in the Ulubaria subdivision, is the average less than 1,100 per square mile.

The other two parts in which population in this district is denser than the remaining parts are the banks of the Damadar from Amta down to Odang and adjoining villages, and the eastern bank of Rupnarain from Baxi down to Mellock, Panitras and other villages. These parts are in thanas Ampta and Bagnan. Population in the southern part of *thana* Syampur is comparatively thinner, but the density is increasing on a more rapid scale than in other *thanas*, for in 1872 density in this *thana* was 902 per square mile, in 1881 it was 1,014, and in 1891 it has risen to 1,149. The rapid rise is accounted for by the comparatively healthy climate of the *thana* and the good crops reaped by the cultivators nearly every year. Although the land is somewhat low, the cultivators derive the full advantage of rains, and they do not suffer from floods.

Head IV.—Religion.

19. *Distribution of population according to religion.*—The statement in the margin shows the increase and decrease in the population of the district according to religion since 1872. It appears from this statement that there has been no unusual increase or decrease in any particular creed excepting in Brahmos. The number of Brahmos has increased from 6 to 80—a relatively large increase, but not important in regard to the actual total.

Distribution of population according to religion.

Religion.	1872.	1881.	1891.
1	2	3	4
Hindu	476,568	500,870	505,973
Muhammadan	117,313	132,118	152,800
Christian	1,593	2,051	2,072
Buddhist	...	37	35
Jain	...	3	12
Brahmo	391	6	80
Jew	...	13	10
Parsi	...	1	5
Sonthal	...	282	194
Unspecified	...	...	24
Total ...	595,805	635,381	721,211

20. There is no remarkable Hindu shrine in this district to which pilgrims resort excepting the bank of the Ganges (Bhagirathi) itself and the *Mala Chundi* in Amta. The latter of these, according to the Hindu mythology, is as sacred as the shrine of *Kalighat*, but less numerously attended. The former attracts thousands of men during the Hindu festivals of sacred baths. The sacredness of the Ganges water does not retain below the mouth of the *khal* in Rajganj, as the ancient Saraswati poured its water in the Ganges at that point, and spoiled its sacred character in the eyes of the Hindu. The sacredness of the water being thus confined down to that point, the people of the southern part of the district and of other districts adjacent to them flock to Calcutta and Howrah on all occasions of sacred baths.

21. *Proselytism.*—As for proselytism there has been but little. The annexed statement of Christian population shows the number of different classes of Christians living within the district. As the number of each class of Christians is not available here from the census reports of 1872 and 1881, a detailed comparison of figures cannot be made. All that may be discussed on this subject is that the Christian population of the district increased from 1,593 to 2,051 within 1872 and 1881, but the increase of the number within 1881 and 1891 is only nominal, *i.e.*, from 2,051 to 2,072. This falling off may be due partly to a smaller influx of Europeans and partly to the increase in the Brahmos or reformed sect of Hindus.

22. The subjoined statement shows the distribution of population by sex as ascertained in the census of 1891:—

Detailed statement of population of the District, thana by thana, according to religion.

Names of Thanas.	Hindu.		Muhammadan.		Christian.		Brahmo.		Buddhist.		Sonthal.		Jain.		Jew.		Zoroastrian		Lutheran.		Unspecified.		Total.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Dumjor ...	60,977	57,319	14,723	14,407	84	49	2	2	...	...	83	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75,870	71,879
Jaggatballabhpur ...	31,046	33,260	9,149	11,784	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,197	45,044
Amta	47,037	54,008	8,094	11,460	...	...	18	15	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55,149	65,483
Syampur	32,162	34,278	5,452	5,867	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37,615	40,140
Bagnan	26,322	28,685	6,428	7,387	2	1	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32,754	36,078
Ulubaria	30,029	29,591	13,253	14,683	22	8	3	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43,313	44,283
Bally Municipality ...	8,308	6,577	1,086	577	27	12	1	...	...	...	28	15	2	2	..	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	9,515	7,185
Howrah ditto ...	51,422	34,797	17,969	10,397	974	893	15	13	27	2	50	6	7	...	3	7	...	...	1	...	10	14	70,477	46,129
Total ...	287,363	278,610	76,154	76,652	1,109	963	44	30	33	2	161	33	10	2	3	7	3	2	1	...	10	14	364,890	350,321

It will be observed from this statement that not a single person returned himself as an atheist. It is not known whether the persons whose religion was entered as অপ্রকাশ্য " unspecified " belong to the atheistic or agnostic sect—

23. *Predominance of particular religion or sect.*—A complete statement showing the number of each sex of each religious creed in the thanas and municipalities of this district as returned in the last census is given in the preceding paragraph. It will appear from it that the number of religious creeds in the Howrah Municipality is largest, *i.e.*, 10, and in Bally 7, in Dumjor 6, in Ulubaria 5, and in Bagnan 4, and in the remaining thanas the number is 3, but the number of Hindus is the largest in all thanas, while Mussalmans come next. There is a considerable number of Christians in the municipalities. The people of other religious denominations is trifling.

24. The proportion in which the Hindus and Muhammadans prevail in the different parts of the district is interesting to note, and the figures are given in the statement in the margin. From the figures it appears that the percentage of Hindus and Muhammadans are inversely proportional. The largest percentage of Hindus is in Bally, where the percentage of Muhammadans is the lowest, and the largest percentage of Muhammadans is in Ulubaria, where the percentage of the Hindus is the lowest. There are certain villages of mostly Muhammadan population in thanas Jagatballabhpur and Ulubaria. The Hindus of Amta, Bagnan, and Syampur are mostly of Bisnavite faith. The number of Saivaite Hindus is comparativaly small in this district.

Thana.	Percentage of Hindus.	Percentage of Muhammadans.
1	2	3
Howrah Municipality ...	78·7	18·1
Bally ditto ...	87·5	6·2
Dumjor	78·7	14·4
Jagatballabhpur	74·9	23·5
Ulubaria	62·5	25·0
Amta	83·3	15·8
Bagnan	83·3	19·0
Syampur	85·7	14·2

Head V.—Infirmities.

25. The distribution of infirmities in relation to parts of the district is shown in the statement given in the margin. As the figures for each *thana* at former censuses are not available, no comparison can be made. The preponderance of deaf mutes suggests a question whether deaf persons who are not mutes have been included, as I was not aware that deaf mutes were as common as blind persons. A comparison of the number of infirm men for the whole district has been made in the statement below. It contains the figures of the censuses of 1872, 1881 and 1891 according to religion. The figures shown under heading 1872 are calculated on the number of square miles of which the district consists, for in that census the infirmities of Hooghly and Howrah were taken together, and so there is no other reasonable method by which the figures of each district can be ascertained. The variations in the figures of the three censuses do not readily admit of explanation. The figures for 1872 seem unduly small, and again it is not clear why the number of blind persons should have decreased so much between 1881 and 1891.

Infirmities in 1891.

Thana or Municipality.	Insane.		Deaf and Mute.		Blind.		Leper.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Howrah Municipality ...	25	17	40	44	40	53	16	12
Bally ditto ...	10	5	8	2	9	5	2	1
Dumjor thana ...	44	18	93	44	58	38	28	9
Jagatballabhpur thana ...	17	5	46	32	36	27	25	2
Ulubaria	24	13	48	20	30	22	23	3
Amta	46	16	77	43	53	33	34	10
Bagnan	19	12	35	26	17	11	27	4
Syampur	15	13	44	30	14	21	16	10
Total ...	199	99	391	241	257	210	171	51

Comparative statement of infirm population since 1872.

Infirmities.	1872.		1881.		1891.		Religion.	1872.		1881.		1891.		Infirmities.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Blind	245	125	293 88 1	243 97 ...	257	210	Hindu ... Musalman ... Christian...	262	37	214 47 1	83 15 ...	171	51	Leper.
Deaf and mute ...	134	56	327 89 1	230 56 ...	391	241	Hindu ... Musalman ... Christian...	100	30	167 31 ...	96 19 ...	199	99	Insane.

26. Insanity was understood in the sense of such deviation from that standard of mental soundness which is commonly recognized (though difficult of definition) in which the person, the property, and civil rights may be interfered with. These deviations are briefly where the incapacity or violence or irregularities of the individual are such as to threaten danger to himself or others, or to unfit him for his ordinary business and duties. The word insanity was

understood in this sense by the enumerators, and probably included idiocy, imbecility, dimentia, or mania. It may be noted here that persons occasionally subjected to such derangements were not censused as *insane*.

Although the term leprosy is very vaguely used by medical and other writers, the word is generally accepted to mean *Lepra tuburculosa* which is met with in warm climates. The enumerators understood the term in this sense and censused accordingly. The decreased number of lepers according to the present census is probably due to the more strict interpretation.

27. The popular belief on the subject of leprosy is closely connected with the use of unwholesome meat, fish and excessive use of meat. The members of the caste who are mostly liable to suffer from the disease are the Muhammadans and the Jelia section of the Kaibarttas. The disease is found only in a very minute proportion among the higher castes of the Hindus. It is found that among males 33 per cent. of lepers are Mussulmans, 28 per cent. Kaibarttas, 11 per cent. Bagdis, 6 per cent. Barui, 6 per cent. Goala, and the remaining 16 per cent. among other low castes. Amongst the females, the percentage of lepers stands thus—

Mussulman	...	...	...	24 per cent.
Kaibartta	...	...	...	27 ,,
Bagdi	...	...	...	15 ,,
Goala	...	...	...	6 ,,
Baisnab	...	...	...	6 ,,
Others	...	...	...	22 ,,

The prevalence of the disease among the Mussulmans and Kaibarttas is borne out by the statement below. Infirmities by age-periods are also shown in that statement. The figures of 1871 and 1891 under each age-period have been set side by side, and they speak for themselves.

Infirmities by age.

	Year.	Under 5	5 to 9.	10 to 14.	15 to 19.	20 to 29.	30 to 39.	40 to 49.	50 to 59.	60 and over.	Unspecified.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Insane	1872	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100—30
	1881	4—2	8—3	14—2	15—5	41—22	51—24	34—18	16—12	15—26	0—1	198—115
	1891	1—0	3—1	11—5	20—8	40—20	58—23	32—14	24—12	10—16	...	199—99
Blind	1872	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	245—125
	1881	11—14	16—13	13—7	14—5	45—19	42—19	35—28	38—59	168—218	...	382—382
	1891	10—9	14—6	16—13	7—7	25—16	24—12	28—21	40—30	94—89	...	257—219
Deaf and mute	1872	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	134—56
	1881	13—9	40—30	51—20	28—21	64—51	57—41	55—29	43—26	59—59	1—0	417—286
	1891	12—14	63—28	54—21	34—16	67—39	57—33	44—26	27—21	33—41	...	391—241
Leper	1872	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	202—37
	1881	3—1	2—1	5—2	12—3	36—18	44—17	63—18	40—19	57—24	...	262—98
	1891	1—0	0—0	1—1	4—0	12—3	36—13	47—11	36—11	36—12	...	171—51

Head VI.—Education.

28. The accompanying statement gives in detail the education figures of 1881 and 1891. In the censuses of both these years, the people who were under instruction have been enumerated in such a way that they might be separated from those who were literate. No such attempt was, however, made in the census of 1872. Separate statistics of education for the town of Howrah only were returned in that census.

Comparative list of education by Religion—1881 *and* 1891.

Religion.	1881.						1891.					
	Male.			Female.			Male.			Female.		
	Learning.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Learning.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Learning.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Learning.	Literate.	Illiterate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Hindus	19,805	39,444	190,440	333	631	250,217	22,461	55,546	200,354	481	1,576	276,553
Muhammadans	2,762	5,744	56,850	49	73	66,640	2,903	9,005	64,156	52	134	76,466
Christians	202	615	367	132	370	365	129	766	214	97	602	264
Buddhists	...	9	19	...	...	9	...	30	3	...	...	2
Brahmos	1	2	...	...	...	3	5	28	11	8	9	19
Jains	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	8	2	...	...	2
Jews	1	3	...	...	5	4	...	3	...	...	7	...
Parsis or Zoroastrians ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
All others	...	1	211	...	...	70	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sonthals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	160	...	...	33
Lutherans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2
Unspecified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	...	...	14
Total ...	22,771	45,821	247,887	514	1,080	317,430	25,588	65,395	273,907	638	2,328	353,355

29. The education figures for the town of Howrah in 1872 were as follow:—

	Male.	Female.
Hindus	9,987	285
Mussulmans ...	816	63
Christians ...	572	484
Buddhists ...	1	0
Others	11	5

The general compilation sheets of educational statistics in the censuses of 1881 and 1891 do not provide figures of the district, *thana* by *thana*.

30. *Percentage calculation of Education statistics.*—It appears from the following statement that the number of persons learning and literate in the three chief religions, viz., Hindu, Mussalman, and Christian, has increased over the figures as ascertained in 1881. The increase of the learning and literate is also observable in the percentage calculations as given below:—

Religion.	1881.				1891.			
	Percentage of Learning.		Percentage of Literate.		Percentage of Learning.		Percentage of Literate.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Hindu	7·93	·13	15·9	·25	7·81	·17	19·33	·58
Muhammadan	4·22	·07	8·78	10	8·93	·06	11·82	·17
Christian	17·06	15·22	51·93	42·67	10·07	1·07	68·23	62·51

Taking the percentage of men learning and literate together, the statement shows conclusively that in all these cases, the progress of education is satisfactory.

31. *Increase of Education.*—Both English and vernacular education is making rapid progress in this district. Diffusion of education is not confined to any particular sect or creed, but extends to all classes of men alike. The spread of education in the *thanas* of Ulubaria subdivision is much less than in the Sadar subdivision. The reason for this is that in the Sadar subdivision the classes who benefit by education, and, therefore, appreciate it are more numerous and have been longer established in this district. As the Sadar subdivision abounds with persons employed in Calcutta, education is pushed on with much keenness. There are English as well as vernacular schools in many of the big villages of the Sadar subdivision. The total number of high schools in the Sadar subdivision teaching up to the Entrance standard is 12. In the subdivision of Ulubaria there are three Entrance class schools in *thana* Amta, 2 in Bagnan, and 1 in Ulubaria. The Howrah Zilla School has been placed in the hands of the local Municipality since 1887.

The statement in the margin shows the number of pupils of each class within this district, classified according to religion. The figures as returned in the last three censuses of 1872, 1881, and 1891 have been shown. *Thana* Syampur is comparatively backward in education, and the number of schools is much fewer in that *thana* than elsewhere. This is owing to the fact of its being inhabited by the lower class of Hindus, chiefly Kaibarttas, by whom the advantage of education is being very slowly appreciated, and the people are mostly of the agricultural class.

Religion.	1872.		1881.		1891.		Religion.
	Male (literate).	Female (literate).	Male (literate).	Female (literate).	Male (literate).	Female (literate).	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Hindu	9,987	285	39,444	631	55,548	1,576	Hindu.
Mussulman ...	816	63	5,744	73	9,005	134	Mussulman.
Buddhist ...	1	...	9	...	30	...	Buddhist.
Christian ...	572	484	615	370	766	602	Christian.
Others	11	5	1	...	...	...	Others.
Brahmo	...	...	2	...	28	9	Brahmo.
Jain	...	...	2	1	8	...	Jain.
Jew	...	...	8	5	3	7	Jew.
Parsi	...	...	1	...	3	...	Parsee.
Santhal	...	...	...	...	1	...	Santhal.
Unspecified ...	...	...	...	...	3	...	Unspecified.
Total ...	11,387	837	45,821	1,080	65,395	2,328	

32. The subjoined statement shows the comparative statistics of schools since 1881—

Year.	High schools.	Middle schools.	Primary schools.	Other schools.
1	2	3	4	5
1881 ...	10	42	408	2 Technical schools.
1882 ...	10	43	456	
1883 ...	9	42	573	
1884 ...	10	40	700	
1885 ...	11	40	685	
1886 ...	15	39	738	
1887 ...	15	35	804	2 *Guru*-training schools.
1888 ...	16	35	750	1 *Guru*-training school.
1889 ...	17	37	726	
1890 ...	18	37	664	
1891 ...	18	38	735	2 *Guru*-training schools.

Apart from these schools, there are some schools for advanced teaching of classical languages, and a few for teaching the Koran only. In the year 1890-91, of these schools only 18 taught Sanskrit, and 5 the Koran; two technical schools were started in the year 1881 with 91 pupils, but they were not in existence in the following year, and no school of that character has sprung up again. It will be further evident from the above statement that the number of high schools has steadily increased within the last ten years from 10 to 18, and the middle schools have decreased from 42 to 38. There has been a considerable fluctuation in the number of primary schools, although the number in the year 1891 stands next to the highest number of such schools in existence in 1887 and 1888. These schools are under the different heads of control, viz, Municipal, District Board, and private enterprise, a large majority of them being supported and aided by the District Board. The figures of schools in 1872 and the following years could not be shown, as in the reports available the schools were shown together with those in the district of Hooghly.

33. *Education by Religion and Age.*—Education by caste is not available from the Census Reports of 1872 and 1881. Education figures of the census of 1891 by age and religion are given in the statement below:—

Males.

Religion.	All ages.				0—14 Years.				15—24 Years.				25 Years and over.			
	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Hindu	287,363	22,461	55,548	209,354	100,559	20,035	3,541	85,983	48,005	2,309	14,415	31,281	129,799	117	37,592	92,090
Mussalman	76,154	2,993	9,005	64,156	32,752	2,788	735	29,229	11,285	193	2,014	9,078	32,117	12	6,256	25,849
Christian	1,108	129	766	214	322	110	79	133	206	16	174	16	581	3	513	64
Buddhist	33	...	30	3	1	...	...	1	3	...	2	1	29	...	28	1
Jain	10	...	8	2	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	7	...	5	2
Brahmo	44	5	28	11	11	3	...	8	6	1	5	..	27	1	23	3
Sonthal	161	...	1	160	11	...	1	10	13	...	...	13	137	...	...	137
Jew	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...
Lutheran	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Zoroastrian	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...
Unspecified	10	...	3	7	2	...		2	...	...	...	...	8	...	3	5
Total ...	364,890	25,586	65,395	273, 07	142,658	22,936	4,356	115,366	59,523	2,519	16,615	40,389	162,709	133	44,424	118,152

Females.

Hindu	278,610	481	1,676	276,553	101,860	469	355	101,054	50,009	7	586	49,416	126,741	12	635	126,094
Mussalman	76,652	52	134	76,466	30,119	45	21	30,053	13,978	1	51	13,926	32,555	6	62	32,487
Christian	963	97	602	264	313	85	90	138	213	11	173	29	437	1	339	97
Buddhist	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1
Jain	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	..	2
Brahmo	36	8	9	19	18	7	1	10	8	1	5	2	10	...	3	7
Sonthal	33	...	...	33	11	...	...	...	4	...	...	4	18	...	...	18
Jew	7	...	7	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	5	...	5	...
Lutheran	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Zoroastrian	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1
Unspecified	14	...	...	14	9	...	...	9	1	...	...	1	4	...	.	4
Total ...	356,321	638	2,328	353,355	132,331	599	468	131,264	64,216	20	816	63,380	159,774	19	1,044	158,711

In the previous two censuses, education was ascertained only by noting the number of persons who could read and write. A very important column was added to Abstraction Sheet No. X to count the persons who possess a knowledge of English. So the figures in the Tabulation Register No. XIX of the present census are more explicit than those which

we have in the Census report of 1872 and 1881 under the head of Educated men. The total number of persons who know English are the following:—

Howrah Municipality	... 5,414	Bagnan	... 287
Bally ditto	... 883	Syampur	... 115
Dumjor	... 760		
Jagatbullabhpur	... 278		
Ulubaria	... 215	Total	... 8,407
Amta	... 455		

It must be noticed here that although female education is now making some progress in this district, such education is still confined to the primary class. There is no school in Howrah which teaches the females to the middle or high standard. But in the year 1890-91 there were 14 primary schools consisting of 681 girls, and 22 lower primary schools teaching 488 girls. The number of school-going girls since 1881 to the present year are shown below:—

Year.	No. of school.	Number of girls going to school.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4
1881 ...	6	259	In 1882 and 1883 there were no schools teaching girls. All these schools shown in column 2 belong to the primary standard.
1884 ..	34	1,094	
1885 ...	57	1,525	
1886 ...	40	1,223	
1887 ...	45	1,285	
1888 ...	41	1,195	
1889 ...	45	1,132	
1890 ...	33	1,043	
1891 ...	36	1,169	

Head VII.—Language.

34. *Languages of the population of Howrah.*—The figures showing languages spoken in the district are obtained from Register No. VIII, and are set forth in the statement below:—

Name of language.	1872.	1881.	1891.	Name of language.	1872.	1881.	1891.
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Bengali ...		603,950	664,687	Scotch ...		19	30
Hindi ...		27,425	45,528	Singalese ...		1	...
Uriya ...		2,129	3,979	Sonthali ...		53	620
English ...		1,406	1,257	Spanish ...		3	...
Armenian ...		15	11	Tamil ...		4	18
Assamese ...		1	4	Telegu ...		3	49
Chinese ...		19	35	Unspecified ...		71	...
Dhangari ...		204	641	Nagri ...		...	1,703
Dutch ...		14	...	Arabic ...		...	342
French ...		18	83	Madrassi ...		...	18
German ...		9	8	Urdu ...		...	1,884
Gujrati ...		2	9	Kabuli ...		...	5
Hebrew ...		8	12	Nagpuri ...		...	87
Hungarian ...		1	...	Uraon ...		...	175
Italian ...		7	...	Bolati ...		...	4
Nepali ...		11	5	Burmese ...		...	20
Pashtu ...		3	16	Mori ...		...	15
Portuguese ...		2	2				
Punjabi ...		3	3				
				Grand Total ...		635,381	721,211

Although in area this district is the smallest of all in Bengal, the variety of spoken languages is many, in consequence of a large number of immigrants from various parts of the world. In the schedule book, language was entered in column 10, and it was meant to show in that column "the language ordinarily spoken in the parental home of each person." In the foregoing statement a distribution of language in this district is shown since 1881. The figures under the head of column 1872 could not be had from the Census report of that year. The language of the natives of the district is only Bengali, of which no dialectic difference is observable anywhere. The dialectic variations with reference to urban and rural population are not perceptible. As the district of Howrah is entirely within the limits of *Rarh*, and does not include any portion of the other indigenous division, the dialect of the

Note.—The figures shown in the Bengal Census Report for the Bengali, Hindi and Sonthali languages are 665,678, 48,115 and 1,267, respectively.

people does not at all vary. The indigenous dialect of this district is Bengali. The large number of languages given in the statement as a list of spoken languages in the district has nothing to do with the indigenous dialects. It should be noted, however, that in some cases the enumerators have returned Arabic as a spoken language. During the preliminary enumeration this point was noticed, and the enumerators told that there are certain Muhammadan families who spoke Arabic, though the spoken language differed in grammar and idiom from the dead Arabic language.

35. Another statement is annexed to this section to show the number of persons whose mother-tongue is different from the language of this district, but who live in the several *thanas* of the district. This statement will make clear the proportion of immigrants to each of the *thanas*:—

Language.	Howrah.	Bally.	Dumjor.	Jagat-bullabhpur.	Ulubaria.	Ampta.	Bagnan.	Syampur.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bengali	71,236	13,418	143,572	84,444	66,107	120,104	68,371	77,435
Hindi	38,250	2,715	1,735	626	1,084	436	394	288
Uriya	2,299	167	755	138	420	80	44	26
Dhangari	74	1	566	...	...	...	...	...
Sonthali	134	43	411	24	9	1	...	...
Nagri	967	148	539	6	21	9	10	3
Arabic	245	...	97	...	...	...	...	...
Madrassi	13	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
Telegu	43	...	1	...	...	...	4	...
English	1,188	17	7	...	12	...	3	...
Urdu	1,715	72	60	6	29	1	...	1
Poshtu	5	...	...	...	...	...	6	...
Cabuli	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2
Chinese	29	...	...	...	6	...	...	...
Scotch	28	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Nagpuri	22	65	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guzrati	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Punjabi	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Uraon	137	38	...	...	...	...	...	...
French	67	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hebrew	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bolati	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Burmese	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assamese	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
German	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nepali	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mori	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Portuguese ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Armenian	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unspecified ...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

It appears from the foregoing statement that in *thana* Syampur, excepting those who speak Bengali, there are men speaking five other languages, in Bagnan 6, in Amta 5, in Ulubaria 9, in Jagatballabhpur 5, in Dumjor 10, in the Bally Municipality 12, and in the Municipality of Howrah there are men speaking 28 different languages. From this it is clear enough that men come to this part of the district from various other distant places. The large number of Hindi speaking men are mostly from the poor classes of people of North-Western Provinces and Bihar.

Head VIII.—Castes.

36. Originally, caste was founded on race distinction, and it has been influenced by two other systems of division, viz., the employments of people and the localities in which they live. The inauguration of this latter system of classification was made in the middle of the 9th century by the famous Hindu Raja Ballal Sen from among the descendants of five Brahmans and five Kayasthas, who had been brought from Kanauj by his grandfather Adisura. Ballal Sen finally settled their rank and assigned the five parts of Bengal to each of the five castes of Brahmans and Kayasthas. While the caste system as based on race distinction seems at first a very simple arrangement of the people, it is in reality a very complex one, for it has been made to rest on occupations and localities. Caste, as a system of trade-guilds, has added largely to the multiplicity of its numbers. As a matter of practice, men of every caste of the present day change their occupation, and the lower ones sometimes raise themselves in social scale, but intercourse with the other caste section continues to be an impossibility.

37. In area, Howrah being the smallest district in Bengal, and in physical aspect, it being a plain throughout, bounded on the west and east by two rivers, the Rupnarain and the Ganges, and intercepted by the Damodar, the number of castes that lived here originally was very few. In the villages bordering the bank of the Ganges and the old bed of the Saraswati lived the higher Hindu castes—the Brahmans and Kayasthas—and certain lower castes, such as

Note.—The district totals of the Bengali, Hindi and Sonthali languages shown in the Bengal Census Report are 665,678, 48,115 and 1,267, respectively.

Kamar, Kumar, Goala, Teli, Sadgop, &c. In *thana* Jagatbullabhpur there is a prevalence of Bania and Suri castes and Musalmans of the Sunni sect. The predominance of Kaibarttas, Keora, and Sadgop is observable in all the *thanas* of Ulubaria subdivision, the chief seat of the Kaibarttas being in *thanas* Amta and Syampur. The Kaibarttas in Amta are located in three groups along the banks of the Damodar. The first of these groups about Jhingra, Rautara, Tajpur and others is on the west of the Damodar towards the northern parts of the *thana*. The second group lies on the east of the Damodar consisting of villages Chotomaira, Someswar, Rashpur, Thalia, &c. The third group is also on the east of the Damodar opposite the tract covered by the first group of the Kaibarttas, and lies in the villages of Khilia, Harishpur, Khosalpur, and Pirna (the seat of the family of the ancient Bengali poet Bharat Chandra Roy). The supreme caste among the people, viz., the Brahmans, lives on the west of the Damodar in the villages about Narit, Gazipur, &c. The Muhammadans of the *thana* are settled in the land east of the Madaria khal and contiguous to the *thana* Jagatbullabhpur in the villages about Basantapur, and on the west of the Damodar towards the Bhatora outpost in the villages called Ajangazi and Chitnan. The Brahmans are mostly giving up the caste occupation of priesthood. Kaibarttas do not all live upon cultivation—their hereditary occupation. The tendency to take to occupations not belonging to their own caste has been a somewhat marked feature. The Kaibarttas who were in old days classified as Halia and Jalia, according to their occupation of tilling and fishing, now claim to be classified as *Uttar-rarhis* and *Dakhin-rarhis*, like the Kayasthas. They formed associations against their being enumerated as Halias and Jalias, and moved their caste people in other *thanas* by issuing notices and resolutions.

38. In *thana* Syampur the predominant castes are Kaibarttas and Pods, two castes of low rank. The Kaibarttas in that *thana* settle themselves in all parts except the north-east and south-east corners, where the Pods predominate The first group of Pods in the *thana* live in the villages of Bashudebpur, Gangahdarpur, Kasipur, &c., towards the north-east part of the *thana*, and the second group lives in Malanchbere and Guzarpur. The absence of any considerable number of high caste men anywhere in the *thana* is a remarkable fact. The Kaibarttas in this *thana* are the oldest caste people who have come for cultivation from the districts of the 24-Parganas, Hooghly, Burdwan, Midnapore, and Bankura. The first settlement of the Kaibarttas here dates about two centuries back. The present lowness of the lands proves that the land was not fit for cultivation before that date. At first they came in the cultivating season and lived temporarily, but now most of them have settled down as permanent residents. Their only wealth consists in their stock of rice, which grows rather abundantly, and is not so subject to destruction by drought and flood as the crop of the other districts. In Ulubaria, the Muhammadans are widespread, living in all the 26 circles into which the charge was divided. The bulk of the population consists, however, of Hindus of the lower orders. The Muhammadans in this *thana* are also residents since very early days. Here there is a considerable variety of Hindu castes of the lower order, who practise their ancestral trades to earn a livelihood. The chief castes in all these *thanas* in social precedents are—

(1) Brahman.	(12) Sadgop.	(22) Dhoba.
(2) Kayastha.	(13) Kansari.	(23) Sunri.
(3) Baidya.	(14) Malakar.	(24) Bagdi.
(4) Barui.	(15) Maira.	(25) Dulia.
(5) Tambuli.	(16) Tanti.	(26) Jelia.
(6) Teli.	(17) Kaibartta.	(27) Tiyar.
(7) Kumhar.	(18) Gop (Goala).	(28) Kaora.
(8) Kamar.	(19) Subarnabanik.	(29) Hari.
(9) Sankari.	(20) Vaishnava.	(30) Chandal.
(10) Napit	(21) Kalu.	(31) Muchi.
(11) Gandha Banik.		

39. In *thana* Dumjor, besides the old bed of the Saraswati, now the narrow water channel which meets the Ganges near Rajganj, there is a series of villages forming a line of demarcation between the tracts peopled by many low caste Hindus and Musulmans. This channel passes through the groups of villages called Dakhinbar, Jhapardaha, Dumjor, Makardaha, Katlia, Bhandhardaha, and Andul, in all of which the Brahmans predominate; stretching towards north-east from Makardaha group, four other groups of villages are met, viz., Bhasour, Buluti, Kona, and Chamral, in which the Brahman population preponderates. The Musulmans are scattered over the *thana*, but in rather detached villages. The preponderance of Musulmans in Kolora and Bankra, two villages situated in diametrically opposite directions, is a noticeable feature. Below Kolora, there are Musulmans in the groups of villages called Dhulogore and Kamdebpur. Kaibarttas are also the predominant caste in many of the villages, but they do not occupy such a large area in contiguous situation as is found in other *thanas* of the district, viz, Amta, Syampur. These Kaibarttas do also claim the classification of Uttar-rarhi and Dakhin-rarhi instead of Halia and Jelia. The Brahmans of this *thana* are also of the *rarhi* class, and descendants of those who were brought down to Bengal from Kanauj. Many have also come from the Eastern districts. The Kaibarttas who live here were elevated from the ranks of Jalias who rendered some special services to the old Hindu king, the originator of the caste system. They, however, stick to their hereditary trade-guild unlike many other castes who are found to have given up their ancestral occupation in a more or less degree Turning to Bagnan *thana* of the subdivision of Ulubaria, the same feature of the predomination of the Kaibarttas as

in the two adjacent *thanas* of Syampur and Amta is noticeable. The Kaibarttas here are mostly cultivators and are said to have immigrated from the other side of the Rupnarain, viz., the district of Midnapore. In about 20 villages out of 190 villages of the *thana*, the Brahmans do live. The line of Brahman villages commences from the western bank of the Damodar near Khalore, and goes through Chandbhag, Batul, &c., to the eastern bank of the Rupnarain, along which the line may be traced up to the villages of Mellook, Panitras, Deulgram, Harope, &c. There are a few villages in which Muhammadans live. They were once a very flourishing portion of the community, but they have now declined owing to the decline of the manufacture of country papers. There are still some Muhammadans who are engaged in the manufacture of these papers, but who make a poor livelihood from it.

40. The Kana Nadi passes from north to south nearly through the middle of the *thana* Jagatbullabhpur, forming the following five groups of villages of a comparatively denser population and greater importance, viz., Jagatbullabhpur, Majhu, Balia, Patilial, Jujeswar, and Panchla. Before the construction of the East India Railway lines, the Kana Nadi was a navigable river from its leaving the Damodar near Selimabad in the district of Burdwan to its entering the Ganges near Kulsapa. The people settled from an early age on both sides of the river in groups of villages, the principal of which have been named above. At Jagatbullabhpur there are villages in which the Musulman element predominates. They are entirely of the Suni sect. The only Shia family which is found in the *thana* settled in the village.

41. In the group of villages about Patihal, Maju, and Balia, there are higher class Hindus, viz., the Brahmans and Kayasthas. The concentration of such a large number of Brahmans in this part of the *thana*, and specially in the Balia group, is in consequence of its being the seat of an ancient Hindu shrine. The Burdwan Raj granted about 2,000 bighas of rent-free land for the maintenance of the Brahmans in service of the idols. In Jujeswar group the Kaibarttas prevail, and their chief occupation was the cultivation of mulberry. This class of Kaibarttas is therefore distinguished from others by a separate name as *Tutiya* Kaibarttas. They, however, now betake themselves to cultivation and other occupation. On the west of the Kana Nadi opposite the Jagatbullabhpur group, the prevailing caste was *Tanti, i.e.*, weavers. Their number has, however, decreased very much owing to the decline of the cloth manufactures. The village Nabasan was famous for its fine production of cloth.

42. Along the banks of the Kana Nadi there are three groups of villages in which the Muhammadan element of the population prevails. The first of these are the villages about Kamalapur and Sekrahati, the second Dhasa, Narendrapur, and Bakul, and the third Goostia and Panchla. In these villages, the element of Hindu population is much below the proportion of the Muhammadans. Within the last 30 years the incidents which went much towards the distribution and destruction of castes were the silting up of the Kana Nadi, the prevalence of the malarial fever, and the decline of the native manufactory of cloth and the preparation of silk cocoons from the cultivation of the mulberry leaves. These have, however, been made up to a very large extent by the reclamation of the marshes and by improved drainage.

43. No attempts appear to have been made in the previous two censuses to ascertain sub-castes which, in the census of 1891, were carefully ascertained, and the figures of which are shown in the totalling form W.

44. Although the classification of caste and subcaste was originally principally made on the basis of occupation, it is, however, difficult to associate them in the present day exclusively with any particular occupation. Like Kaibarttas, there are men of the other lower castes who give up their hereditary trade and try to be reckoned among the higher castes. Under the circumstances there is no caste at present to which, as a rule, all the zamindars, tenure-holders, raiyats and other field labourers should respectively belong. In the earlier days of the British rule in Bengal, a classification of caste and tribes in relation to land could have been fairly aimed at. But such an attempt at present is futile owing to the laxity of the caste bond as based on occupation. From the history of the zamindars it is found that among the Hindus the zamindars were the respectable men of the higher castes, viz., Brahmans and Kayasthas. The origin of the proprietary and hereditary right of zamindars is uncertain, but it is a well known fact that old zamindars in Bengal were all men of good castes. The deviation from this rule as now observed, is traceable to the beginning of the British rule, and is due to the equalising tendency of the English law. Some of the prominent zamindars of this district are men of low castes, such as Teli, Kaibartta, and Subarnabarnik.

45. The inferior, or sub-proprietary, rights are now also held by men of various castes. They have been created by purchase, relationship, or connection with the original stock of the zamindars, or to former proprietorship lost by force or under pressure of necessity, or otherwise. So we see what has happened in the case of zamindars in their caste association has come to pass in the case of sub-proprietors of various grades. With regard to the *raiyats* this much may be said, that among all castes, high or low, they are found to exist. But then the term raiyat should not be taken to designate persons tilling the soil with their own hand. In some cases the raiyats of higher caste hold land on payment of a nominal rent, or in lieu of some priestly or other services paid to the zamindars. This practice is no longer observed in these days, and raiyats of whatever caste they may be have to pay the proper rent for lands. Field labourers belong to the distinct class of *Chassa* Kaibarttas and are paid by daily wages. Those who are paid by monthly rate are called *Krishans*. A practice is said to be gaining ground by which the labourer agrees to pay the rent of a bigha or two and appropriate the produce to himself, receiving wages for other lands he cultivates.

The following is a report* on castes by Babu Opendra Nath Ghosh, Sub-Deputy Collector, Howrah:—

46. In paragraph 38 a clear and concise account of the location of the castes in Howrah district has been attempted on the line of Mr. Oldham's treatment of the subject with reference to the district of Burdwan. The variation of castes since 1872 now remains to be dealt with. The statement below shows the population of each caste in 1881 and 1891as obtained from the census statistics. As the figures of caste in the census report of 1872 include both the districts of Hooghly and Howrah, they have not been entered in the statement.

47. Although it has been explained in Mr. Grierson's report in what parts of the district what particular caste prevails, it cannot be explained from the materials now available, whether the number within the specified area has decreased or increased.

48. In the last census, statistics of sub-caste were collected. The names of sub-castes were not ascertained and their number obtained in the previous census. The numerous Hindu sub-castes are worth a study, and in this respect, the present census offers a most important feature. The statement of castes below does not contain the names of sub-caste.

49. The total number of main castes of the Hindus in Howrah is 84, of which 33 come from Bihar and the North-West. In 1881, 58 castes were returned, of which 16 belonged to Bihar and the North-West. In 1881, 2,268 persons were shown as those whose castes were unspecified. In the last census, 23,603 persons were not returned under any specified caste as shown in the statement B. Of the large number, however, 11,831 were returned as devotees and mendicants, including 11,575 Vaishnabas, and 9,080 were returned by occupation including 6,841 Jalias.

Leaving aside these figures, the number of men whose castes have not been specified comes to 2,692. In the census of 1881, both Jalias and Vaishnavas were taken to be special castes and entered as such. The fishermen, who properly belong to the Jalia section of the Kaibarttas, return themselves as Jalias, and the religious mendicants recruited according to the apostolic doctrine of Chaitanya returned themselves as Vaishnavas by caste.

50. The caste tables were compiled with extreme care in the totalling form Z for main castes, and W for sub-castes. The abstraction of these caste sheets was absolutely strictly made, and the castes, as returned in the schedule books, were cautiously transcribed. In spite of the difficulties which attended the compilation of these sheets, the result as compared with the figures of the past census is excellent.

Statement A on caste of the Hindus.

	(a) 1872.	1881.	1891.		(a) 1872.	1881.	1891.
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Brahman	...	39,141	41,030 (b) 1,913	Bagdi	...	54,943	59,621 6,849
Rajput	...	1,039	2,007 752	Barui	...	4,219	4,741
Kayastha	...	15,849	16,990 141	Bauri	...	4	34 11
Kaibartta	...	155,653	177,982 173	Dhobie	...	9,324	9,272 5
Baniya	...	7,107	1,242 6,206	Chamar	...	5,815	1,698 5,281
Chassa	...	...	77	Chandal	...	9,282	6,503 3,270
Goala	...	17,317	18,987 342	Dom	...	3,209	2,004 166
Jalia	...	6,467	(c) 6,841	Hari	...	2,150	...
Jugi	...	4,234	4,240 225	Kapali	...	1,698	1,923
Kalu	...	3,494	4,297	Mal	...	16	15 13
Kumhar	...	5,712	6,667 26	Pan	...	..	...
Kurmi	...	842	1,816 19	Pasi	...	424	411 6
Madak	...	2,770	3,157 340	Pod	...	14,138	16,548 5
Mali	...	1,163	1,399	Sunri	...	3,085	3,038 739
Malla	...	657	97	Aguri	...	...	156
Napit	...	11,460	11,512 89	Baidya	...	...	91 950
Sadgop	...	12,692	15,928 3,848	Bedia	...	...	55 100
Sonar	...	3,042	60 3,624	Baiti	...	...	113 606
Sudra	...	...	...	Chasadhopa	...	...	412 717
Teli	...	11,998	10,114 6,503	Kaora	...	...	18,793
Tambul	...	1,896	1,939 8	Kansari	...	...	17 372
Tanti	...	14,250	13,542 102	Malakar	...	...	888 31
Tiyar	...	15,623	18,789	Sukli	...	...	1,828

(a) The figures for 1872 are not available for the district of Howrah alone.
(b) The figures below under brackets refer to sub-castes which were treated as main caste.
(c) See Appendix B.

* Vide letter No. 314C., dated the 21st December 1892, from G. A. Grierson, Esq., Magistrate of Howrah.

Note.—According to the Bengal Census Report the figures for—
1.—Brahmans are 42,735.
2.—Baniyas are 7,955.
3.—Chamars including Muchis are 6,714.

1	(a) 1872.	1881.	1891.	1	(a) 1872.	1881.	1891.
	2	3	4		2	3	4
Bhat	...	...	125 52	Chain	...	...	5
Babhan	...	...	... 98	Chakma	...	...	1
Barbi	...	1,794	1,444	Garait	...	...	185
Bind	...	9	104	Gugar	...	...	8
Dhanuk	...	18	6	Kharia	...	.	51
Dosadh	...	883	1,027 146	Kora	...	...	18
Gareri	...	108	5 1	Kshatriya	...	...	626 780
Ghatwal	...	13	8	Khatic	...	...	15
Kahar	...	1,954	1,784 828	Patni	...	...	20
Kalwar	...	47	...	Nat	...	...	5
Lohar	...	4,373	5,192 135	Sankari	...	...	392
Kandra	...	...	..	Turaha	...	...	33 20
Kandu	...	320	275 140	Bhuiya	...	5	82 818
Karan	...	19	...	Bhumij	...	...	80
Kewat	...	1	169 14	Gond	...	...	...
Khandait	...	132	352	Kharwar	...	...	...
Koiri	...	348	435 2	Koch	...	95	...
Musahar	...	...	26 6	Kol	...	...	18
Nuniya	...	256	314	Sonthal	...	67	140 5
Rajwar	...	133	59	Vaishnava	...	15,284	(b) 11,575
Tatwa	...	...	...	Unspecified	...	34,303	...
Agarwala	...	...	32				
Bhar	...	...	372 144	Total ...	.	500,870	...
Bari	...	...	12				
Bhaskar	...	...	10	Koranga	...	.	2,453 15
Banpar	...	...	15	Kadar	...	...	2
Bhuimali	...	...	72 3,379	Munda	...	...	... 111
				Murairi	...	...	23
				Sorahia	...	...	41
				Uraon	...	...	380 938

(a) The figures for 1872 are not available for the district of Howrah alone.
(b) See Statement B below.

Statement B—On caste—Showing improperly defined castes in the Census of 1891.

	Males.	Females.	
Religious devotees and mendicants ...	5,624	6,207	Contains Vaishnavas—males 5,452 and females 6,123.
Persons returned by title or unidentifiable sub-caste.	502	156	
Persons returned by occupation ...	4,833	4,247	Contains Jalias—males 3,294 and females 3,547.
Persons returned by unidentifiable caste or not returned by caste.	646	339	
Persons returned by locality ...	748	301	

Head IX.—Occupations.

51. With regard to the point I beg to observe that a classification of occupations of the people of this district is required according to castes. But such a classification by castes cannot be ascertained from the result of the present census, for no step was taken with a view to collect such statistics. For a report on this head a complete statement of the occupations of the people may be given, arranged according to the sub-head proposed in the Government report, as soon as figures are received from the office of the Superintendent of Census Operations, but for information as to classification of castes, the schedule books are required to be abstracted. The occupations of females were abstracted from the schedule books strictly according to the instructions issued on that subject, viz., a female's occupation will be the occupation of the person by whom she is maintained, provided she does not earn her livelihood by personal exertions. If occupations of females have to be classified according to the instructions in the Government letter calling for this report, reference must be made to the schedule books.

The following is a report* on occupations by Babu Opendra Nath Ghosh, Sub-Deputy Collector, Howrah:—

52. The occupation tables in the census of 1872 were drawn up according to the classification prescribed by Colonel Strachey. The preparation of the tables is said to have involved enormous labour, but the result was not regarded as satisfactory. The figures in the table with regard to this district are incorporated with the figures for the district of Hooghly. Under the circumstances no comparison with them can be made with the

* *Vide* letter No. 3140., dated the 21st Decem er 1892 from G. A. Grierson, Esq., Magistrate of Howrah.

statistics of the last two censuses in 1881 and 1891. I have, however, added the annexed statement which contains the classification made of the occupation in 1872.

Occupation statistics of 1872 *for Howrah with Hooghly.*

		Male.	Female.
Class I.—Persons employed under Government, Municipal, or other local services.	.....	7,019	Nil.
Class II.—Professional persons ...	1. Religion ... 2. Education ... 3. Law ... 4. Medicine ... 5. Fine arts ... 6. Survey and Engineering.	19,656	1,615
Class III.—Persons in service and performing personal services.	1. Domestic ... 2. Other than domestic. 3. Inn-keepers ...	31,732	8,529
Class IV.—Persons engaged in agriculture	1. In agriculture 2. With animal ...	192,976	6,360
Class V.—Persons engaged in commerce and trade.	1. Conveyance of persons and goods. 2. Keeping money and lending and sale of goods.	35,492	2,029
Class VI.—Persons engaged in mechanical arts— Manufactures, enginering operations. Sale of goods manufactured and prepared for consumption.	1. Manufactures 2. Construction ... Arts. 3 Miscellaneous artizans. 4. Dealers in vegetables. 5. Dealers in animal food. 6. Dealer in drink. 7. Dealers in stimulants. 8. Dealers in perfumes. 9. Dealer in vegetable substances.	86,986	25,597
Class VII.—Miscellaneous persons not classified otherwise.	.....	348,995	721,570

53. In the statement below, the statistics of occupation have been shown side by side for 1881 and 1891, according to the scheme suggested in the Government Resolution. It must be noticed here that the list of occupations by caste cannot be made from the statistics which are in hand. Occupation statistics have been preferred both in the census of 1881 and in the last census only by locality.

1881.					1891.				
Class.	Order.	Sub-order.	Male.	Female.	Class.	Order.	Group.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
A.—Agricultural.									
Agricultural ...	1. Persons possessing and working the lands.	1. Agriculturist ...	105,491 10,739	2,764 44	Pasture and agriculture.	Agriculture ...	1. Interest in land (5 sub-heads).	130,914	125,200
		2. Arboriculturist ...	...	4			2. Agricultural labourers (1 sub-head).	21,414	24,559
		3. Horticulturist ...	850 6	... ..			3. Growers of special product and tree (sub-heads 12).	5,749	6,396
	2. Persons engaged about animals.	1. Engaged about animals.	2,399 350	456 57			4. Agricultural training and supervision (sub-heads 2).	3,195	2,368
						Engaged about animals.	Stock-breeding and dealing.	2,748	1,073
							Subsidiary services to stock.	11	27

1881.					1891.				
Class.	Order.	Sub-order.	Male.	Female.	Class.	Order.	Group.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
					B.—Professional.				
Professional ...	Persons engaged in learned professions.	Clergyman	3,724 401	406 24	Professions	Learned and artistic professions.	Religion (priests) (6 sub-heads).	5 613	5,796
		Lawyer	188 121	... ...			Education (3 sub-heads) ...	1,579	1,456
		Physician	803 181	261 57			Literature (3 sub-heads)...	9,090	5,807
		Authors	74 17	... ...			Law (5 sub-heads) ...	542	627
		Artists	173 91	8 8			Medicine (6 sub-heads) ...	1,807	2,169
		Musicians	394 51	4 3			Engineering and surveying (4 sub-heads).	211	213
		Actors	104 2	11 4			Other sciences (3 sub-heads).	48	43
		Teachers	710 184	10 9			Pictoria lacts and sculpture.	244	124
		Scientific persons ...	17 7	... ...			Music, acting, drawing (3 sub-heads).	909	666
							Sports and amusements ..	168	148
					C.—Commercial.				
Commercial ..	Persons who buy, or sell, or keep, or lend, money, &c.	2	6,980 3,515	1,327 445	Commercial ...	Commerce ...	Dealers in money and securities (3 sub-heads),	597	671
							General merchandise (2 sub-heads).	2,336	2,444
	Persons engaged in the conveyance of men, &c.	6	10,233 3,288	17 5			Dealing, unspecified (4 sub-heads).	1,726	1,202
							Middlemen	175	192
							Contractors and farmers...	365	369
						Transport ...	Railway (5 sub-heads) ...	420	551
							Roads (5 sub-heads) ...	4,360	3,393
							Water (9 sub-heads) ...	13,333	7,128
							Message (5 sub-heads) ...	1,543	2,260
						Storage ...	Storage and weighing (5 sub-heads).	1,604	1,018
							Toys, curiosities	366	291
							Music	93	120
							Necklace, bracelets ...	389	284
							Furniture	82	105
							Harness	22	16
							Tools and machinery ...	5,482	3,530
							Arms and ammunition ...	74	68
						Glass and pottery, &c.	Glass and pottery ...	3,170	2,885
							Wood, cane and leaves ...	7,167	6,450
							Drugs, gums, dyes ...	306	276
							Leather, horn, bone, grease.	1,319	1,206
						Light, firing, forage.	Lighting	1,484	1,922
							Fuel, forage	631	1,616
						Building ...	Building materials ...	4,067	3,103
							Artifices	2,896	2,847
						Vehicles and vessels.	Railway	64	77
							Cart	66	47
							Ships and boats	302	6
					D.—Artisans.				
Manufacturing and Industrial Class.	1. Persons working and dealing in fabrics, &c.	6	12,866 3,717	5,239 1,121	Preparation and supply of material substances.	1. Fabrics ...	Wool and fur	4	7
							Silk	43	69
							Cotton	1,128	1,661
							Jute, flax, &c.	10,840	8,303
							Dress	5,826	7,105
	2. Persons engaged in food and drink.	3	9,815 2,509	24,186 3,838		2. Food and drink.	Animal food (8 sub-heads)	11,491	14,174
							Vegetable food (8 sub-heads.)	3,708	7,123
							Drink and condiments (17 sub-heads).	7,727	7,027
	Persons engaged in working and dealing in animal substances.	3	102 35	140 18		3. Metals and precious stones.	Gold, silver, precious stones.	2,035	3,133
							Brass, copper and all metal.	808	1,279
							Tin, Zinc, Mercury and lead.	163	165
							Iron and steel	2,391	1,789
	Dealing in vegetable substances.	5	3,855 1,648	707 143		4. Supplementary requirements.	Paper	1,213	807
							Books and prints	711	843
	3. Dealing in minerals.	14	7,407 2,058	648 122			Watches, &c.	32	44
							Carving and engraving ...	83	89
	4. Persons engaged in art and mechanics.	1	6,101 3,681	138 80					

1881.					1891.				
Class.	Order.	Sub-order.	Male.	Female.	Class.	Order.	Group.	Male.	Female
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
				G.—Serving Group.					
Domestic	1. Wives	.....	...	...	Personal services ...	Personal and sanitary.	Personal and domestic ...	16,117	15,244
	2. Persons engaged in personal services.	.....	11,101 4,552	3,396 1,585			Non-domestic establishment.	61	71
							Sanitation	874	780
				II.—Unproductive.					
Non-productive ...	Labourer and others.	.....	11,340 6,381	2,043 1,033	Indefinite and independent.	Indefinite ...	Unskilled labour	60,889	51,816
							Undefined	188	2,327
	Persons of rank or property not returned under any occupation.	.....	1,015 31	225 2		Independent ..	Property and alms ...	4,866	5,382
			117,590	276,252					
	Persons of no specified occupation.	.....	15,442	35,895			Supported at the public charge.	318	317

54. In 1881, occupations were concentrated into six classes, which were divided into 17 orders and 82 sub-orders. Occupations in the last census were, however, concentrated into seven classes, which were divided into 77 groups, which were again subdivided into 478 sections. The subject has been treated very accurately in the present census, and the result obtained may be said to be highly satisfactory.

55. It should be noticed here that the class A, viz., Government, of the last census has been merged into class A of the census of 1881, viz., professional class. The other differences were such as to render the statistics of the latter census more explicit and complete than those of the former.

56. The draft heads for occupation in the Government Resolution do not exactly tally with those made in the censuses of 1881 and 1891 under this head. The following statement shows how they have been included in 1881 and 1891 :—

Draft heads in the Resolutions.	Head under which it falls in 1881.	Head under which it falls in 1891.
1	2	3
A. Agricultural ...	IV. Agriculture ...	B. Agriculture.
B. Professional ...	I. Professional ...	F. Profession.
C. Commercial ...	VII. Commercial ...	E Commerce, Transport, &c.
D. Artisans— ...	V. Manufacturing and industrial.	D. Preparation and supply of material substances.
1. Fabrics and dress stuff.		
2. Food and drink.		
3. Animal substances.		
4. Vegetable substances.		
5. Mineral substances.		
E. Pastoral group ...	IV. Agriculture ...	B. *Supra.*
F. Hunting and fishing group.	No special classification was made.	F. *Supra.*
G. Serving group ...	II. Domestic	Personal and sanitary services.

Draft heads in the Resolutions.	Head under which it falls in 1881.	Head under which it falls in 1891.
1	2	3
H. *Unproductive group*—		
1. Actors and mimics ...	In I, *supra*	F. *Supra*, group 71.
2. Astrologers ...	Ditto	Ditto 69.
3. Dancers and singers...	Ditto	Ditto 71.
4. Devotees ...	No specification ...	Ditto 76.
5. Genealogists and bards	Ditto	Ditto 69.
6. Jugglers, snake-charmers, and animal exhibitors.	Ditto	Ditto 73.
7. Musicians, ballad reciters.	In I, *supra*	Ditto 73.
8. Tumblers and acrobats.	No specification ...	Ditto.
		Class A includes Administration, which in 1881 was included under Profession.

57. The manufacturing and industrial class of 1881 and class of preparation and supply of material substances in 1891 contain analogous subjects, but for a thorough understanding how the occupation statistics of the present census are made much more carefully than those of 1881, I have enumerated below the subdivision of them—

1881.	1891.	
1. Persons engaged in art and mechanic productions.	Food and drink.	1. Animal food. 2. Vegetable food. 3. Drink, condiments and narcotics.
2. Persons working and dealing in the textile fabrics and in dress.	Light fuel and forage.	4. Lighting. 5. Fuel and forage.
3. Persons working and dealing in food and drink.	Building ...	6. Building materials. 7. Artificers in building.
4. Persons working and dealing in animal substances.	Vehicles and vessels.	8. Railway. 9. Carts and carriages. 10. Ships and boats.
5. Persons working and dealing in vegetable substances.	Supplementary requirements.	11. Paper. 12. Books and prints. 13. Watches, clocks, and scientific instruments. 14. Carving, engraving. 15. Toys, curiosities. 16. Music and musical instruments. 17. Necklaces, bracelets, beads, sacred thread. 18. Furniture. 19. Harness. 20. Tools and machinery. 21. Arms and ammunition.
6. Persons working and dealing in minerals.	Textile fabrics.	22. Cotton. 23. Jute, flax. 24. Dress.
	Metals and Precious stones.	25. Gold, silver, &c. 26. Brass, copper, bell-metal. 27. Tin, zinc, mercury and lead. 28. Iron and steel.
	Glass Pottery.	29. Glass and chinaware. 30. Earthen and stoneware.
	Wood, cane, leaves.	31. Timber, wood. 32. Cane-work and matting.
	Drugs, Gums, Dyes.	33. Gums, wax. 34. Drugs, dyes. 35. Leather, horn, bones.

58. The figures under the head of Administration are shown in the subjoined statement:—

1881.					1801.				
Class.	Order.	Sub-order.	Male.	Female.	Class.	Order.	Group.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Administration.									
I. Professional ...	Persons engaged in the clerical or Local Government.	.....	3,003	...	Government ...	Administration.	Service of the Imperial and Provincial.	1,588	1,402
		.....	1,013	...			Service of Local and Municipal Boards.	116	43
	Army and Navy ...		15	...			Village service	2,899	2,279
			14	...		Army	.....	1	0

59. It will appear from statement in paragraph 49 that in 1881 a very large number of females was put under a class non-productive and as persons of no specified occupation. In the present census the statistics of female occupation were gathered as those of their guardians. No step was taken to eliminate the female occupations as they were, for the schedule books contained no such information. The fact has been already noticed in paragraph 47.

60. The district of Howrah possesses a very large variety of occupations. The following figures show the number of occupations obtained in each of the following districts:—

Burdwan ...	...	...	...	288
Bankura ...	...	...	...	246
Birbhum ...	...	...	...	234
Midnapore	...	...	...	249
Hooghly ...	...	...	...	278
Howrah ...	...	...	...	308

The compilation of occupations in the totalling form Y was made with the greatest care, and no labour was spared to make the list thoroughly accurate.

Head X.—Administrative.*

61. For the purposes of the census, the district excluding the municipalities was divided into 7 charges and 15 sub-charges, as mentioned below:—

Charges.	*Sub-charges.*
I.—Dumjor ...	... (1) Dumjor Thana. (2) Sankrail Outpost. (3) Debipara Outpost.
II.—Jagatballabhpur ...	... (4) Jagatballabhpur Thana. (5) Panchla Outpost.
III.—Mohiari ...	... (6) Mohiari Outpost. (7) Nelwa Outpost.
IV.—Ulubaria (thana) ...	... (8) North Ulubaria Thana. (9) South Ulubaria Thana.
V.—Bagnan (thana) ...	... (10) Bagnan. (11) Melak.
VI.—Amta ...	... (12) Amta Thana. (13) Bhatora Outpost.
VII.—Syampur ...	... (14) Syampur Thana. (15) Mandalghat Outpost.

Each charge consisted of a *thana* and each sub-charge of an outpost or part of a *thana*. The density of population in the parts of *thana* Dumjor adjoining the municipality was considered sufficiently important to make Mohiari outpost a separate charge under the superintendentship of the District Engineer. Each charge was divided into supervisors' circles, of which there were 197, and these were again subdivided into 3,036 enumerators' blocks. There were, besides, 164 boat enumerators, 29 road enumerators, and 30 enumerators for censusing the police-stations and outposts. The Superintendent was the highest census officer in a charge, and all instructions received from the office of the Superintendent of Census, Operations, Bengal, as well as orders which appeared from time to time to be necessary,

*Vide letter No. 273C., dated 16th January 1892, from W. Fiddian, Esq., Magistrate of Howrah, to the Superintendent, Census Operations, Bengal.

were issued to them in the first instance, to be communicated by them to the supervisors, who in their turn had to communicate and explain them to the enumerators. The supervisors were, therefore, very convenient channels for conveying instructions to enumerators, who were scattered over several villages, and whom it would therefore be very difficult for an outsider to get together at short notice. They had also to supervise the preliminary operations and to test the accuracy of the enumerators' work, for which they were held responsible. The supervisors were in effect the executive managers of the enumerators and their work, as it was impossible for the Superintendents to look after all the blocks in detail. The two municipalities of Howrah and Bally, for the census of which great care had to be taken, were divided into ten and three charges respectively, each of these charges corresponding with a municipal ward. Ten charges of Howrah Municipality were divided into 54 circles, and these 54 circles into 458 blocks. The three charges of Bally were divided into seven circles and subdivided into 92 blocks. For the enumeration of the European and Eurasian population an unpaid special European Superintendent was appointed. The out-houses of European residents were, however, enumerated as part of the native blocks by the ordinary enumerator. The general supervision of the census in the entire district remained in my hands, and to preserve uniformity all necessary instructions and orders were issued under my hand and signature. The working out of the operations in the subdivision and in the municipality was entrusted to the Sub-divisional Officer and to Mr. Chunder Nath Banerjee, an experienced Deputy Magistrate, but their jurisdiction was confined to matters of detail, and in no case were they authorized to make any departure from the general instructions without obtaining my previous sanction. The formation of blocks was chiefly based upon the "B" Register of 1881, but this latter having been prepared without much regard to the contiguity of the villages entered in it, their serial order has had to a great extent to be deviated from, in order to secure a more natural arrangement for them. The doubts and difficulties experienced by the supervisors and enumerators were promptly attended to, and every care was taken to impress upon them the duties they had to perform. Preliminaries, such as the formation of blocks, the numbering and marking of houses, had been completed by the end of December last, and in the following fortnight, the enumerators were chiefly occupied with the preparation of draft block lists and in filling up the test schedules issued to them. The blocks lists, showing as they did the number of houses in each block, and the number of persons residing in each house, were of very great use at the time of distributing enumeration books, as a glance at them would be enough to ascertain the book of particular size that would be required for a particular block, and this was perhaps their chief use. As regards the filling up of test schedules, the supervisors were instructed to meet their enumerators at convenient centres, and to have the schedules filled up in their presence. This course was generally adopted, and it had one great advantage, namely, that while it saved the supervisors from having to be occupied in the same work from day to day, it helped to secure uniformity in the mode of filling up the enumeration schedules, as any difficulties which the enumerators might have had regarding any particular column in it could be explained then and there to all present at such meetings. A sufficient number of the test schedules was examined personally by the Superintendents. The accuracy of the schedules was, however, in very many cases more fully secured by the enumerators preparing draft copies of the schedules in rough paper, and when the supervisors had corrected them, the enumerators filled in the bound schedule books accordingly. The preliminary, or first enumeration, commenced from the 15th January and was almost completed by the 15th February; there was thus ample time for the entries being checked by the Superintendents and supervisors, before the final census came on. For the convenience of the enumerator, the village *chaukidar* was ordered to accompany him in his round on the night of the 26th February, and to carry the schedule books on the following morning to the supervisor, who was to wait at a convenient place previously appointed. The books were all delivered in good time.

62. *Special arrangements.*—The census of travellers on roads was taken under the immediate control and supervision of the District Superintendent of Police, and considering the difficulty of getting the work done by ordinary enumerators, literate constables were told off at a distance of four to five miles from each other on the main or trunk roads of the district. Distinct instructions were given to the enumerators to census only those who appeared to them to be really wayfarers, and yellow tickets were distributed to these in order to guard against the possibility of their being counted again. With regard to the census of the boat population, it was arranged that in large rivers and *khals* between the boundaries of two districts, all boats sailing past or anchored to the Howrah side should be taken in this district. Within the district itself, the arrangement was to place one or more enumerators at each mooring *ghât* according to the number of boats that were expected to be at anchor there. A few patrol boats were only found necessary at the confluence of the Ganges and the Damodar, and the Ganges and the Rupnarian. The patrol stations were so fixed as to be under the constant surveillance of some responsible police officer, and the result was entirely satisfactory. The census of the boat population within the port of Calcutta was taken charge of by the special Census Officer of Calcutta, and I had only to arrange for the censusing of the persons on the shore by the local house enumerators. The boat enumerators were selected from the most intelligent men available, and most of them took a real interest in the work. No arrangement was necessary for the enumeration of persons on board steamers, in view of the instructions conveyed in Census Superintendent's circular No. 39, dated the 20th January 1891. A special case was, however, made by the Superintendent, by asking me to make arrangement for censusing the passengers of the steamers plying between Midnapore

and Ulubaria on the night of the 26th, by his letter No. 751C., dated the 8—12th February 1891, and his memorandum No. 819C., dated the 18th idem. The census of police-stations and outposts, the Botanical Gardens, the Howrah Jail and Dispensary, was taken by the officers in charge of those institutions. The managers of mills and docks were supplied with schedule books, and requested to census their servants and such of the labourers as might be at work on the night of the 26th. This request was without exception ungrudgingly complied with, and the schedule books properly filled up were returned in due season. Special schedules were given to Europeans and Eurasians, and the distribution and collection of such schedules, so far as regarded the Howrah Municipality, fell upon its Secretary, Mr. E. A. Parsick, who possesses an extensive local knowledge. Within the Howrah Municipality, again, private schedules were issued to resident gazetted officers, Honorary Magistrates, and Municipal Commissioners. Elsewhere they were issued with much discrimination. All these schedules were, however, carefully incorporated into the blocks to which they belonged. The railway authorities were requested to arrange for the census of the railway premises and travellers on the census night within the jurisdiction of this district, strictly in accordance with Circular No. 2930., dated the 10th November 1891, and also according to Circular No. 17, dated the 10th November 1890. Schedule books with all necessary instructions were issued to all public institutions, such as hospitals, jails, colleges, &c., and to the mills and workshops. Private schedules were not demanded by the Superintendent of the Bally Municipality. One hundred and four private schedules were issued in the Howrah Municipality to 52 gentlemen, who were Municipal Commissioners, Honorary Magistrates, and gazetted officers.

63. The general instructions conveyed in the Census Superintendent's circular were not deviated from in any way.

64. The definition of a "village" given in paragraph 2 of Circular No. 10, dated the 30th July 1890, has been generally adhered to. It has sometimes so happened, however, that a large tract of land going by the same name, which formerly lay uninhabited, has been settled upon by cultivators who live in isolated groups of cottages. These groups have had to be included in the same village, although far away from each other, because none of them was so large as to be entitled to the appellation of a village by itself. The total number of villages in the present census has diminished to 1,322 from 1,488 of the census of 1881.

65. The definition of a "house" as laid down in paragraph 2 of instructions to supervisors has also been strictly acted upon in this district. The chief consideration in numbering houses has been to ascertain whether their inmates live in common or separate mess, and this has resulted in the room occupied by a widow, who cooks separately from the other members of the family, being counted as a separate house. The adoption of this rule has led to some inconvenience in the Howrah Municipality, where a great many workmen are frequently to be found residing in the same *bari* (assemblage of rooms within one and the same enclosure), and yet cooking their food separately. In some cases two workmen occupying the same room cook separately, and strictly speaking this one room would have to be numbered as two houses—a veritable *reductio ad absurdum*. To consider each workman as constituting a "house" and to put as many numbers on the same *bari*, as there are such labourers living in it, would seem to serve no useful purpose. Such a *bari* might safely be counted as one house just in the same way as a *sarai*, the more so when it is remembered that the inmates do not live with their wives and children. The prohibition of entering more than one mess in the same schedule involved in such cases a large amount of wastage. The Census Superintendent's circular, therefore, withdrawing the prohibition, though somewhat late, afforded much relief at a time when the demand for schedule books was at its highest. In rural tracts, the difficulty just adverted to has not been felt, and the present definition has been found to work well.

66. Blocks of 50 houses have been the rule, but the last block in a village has generally consisted of a much less number of houses. The following shows the average number of houses per block and circle :—

Name of sub-charge.	Average number of houses in circle.	Average number of houses in block.
1	2	3
Bagnan	616	37
Mellock	636	37
Mohiari	482	43
Nelua	401	43
Amta	594	42
Bhatora	504	39
Dumjor	691	43
Sankrail	636	40
Debiparah	578	44
North Ulubaria	728	40
South „	700	35
Jagatballabhpur	564	41
Panchla	531	39
Syampur	579	29
Mandalghat	552	30

The proposed plan of dividing large villages, not into blocks of 50 houses, but into blocks of varying sizes to suit the schedule books, has proved a failure. The best plan has been found to be that of keeping a uniform size, *i.e.*, 50 houses except for the last block.

67. *The numbering of houses.*—Outside the municipalities the houses were generally numbered with tar. In some cases ink was used, and in others the figures were painted with a preparation of oil and vermilion. The general instruction was to put the marks on doors and windows and such other conspicuous places, high enough to be above the reach of boys, who might otherwise disfigure them. This instruction was followed as closely as it might be, and it ought to be said to the credit of the enumerators that the marks were generally very well put on.

68. The probable cost of materials for numbering the houses in a block would vary according to its size from one anna to one anna and a half. Charge Superintendents of the mufassal portion of the district were allowed to incur necessary expenses for such materials, because the materials would vary in different places, and it was not expected, as a rule, that any charge would be claimed for such petty items, and in a great many places no such charge has been made. The total amount charged for such expenses was Rs. 27-9, and out of this Re. 1-11 has been refunded.

69. As to the practicability of a permanent numbering of houses, I entertain serious doubts. In case of brick-built houses and other permanent structures this may be feasible, and the marks put upon them may last for some time, but the purposes of a permanent numbering can hardly be served in the case of thatched cottages. In the first place, the marks put upon them are not likely to endure for any length of time, not to mention the difficulty of finding places suitable for affixing such marks at all. In most cases they will have to be affixed to bamboo posts or mud walls which require to be changed and repaired almost yearly. In the next place, it is to be borne in mind that the poorer classes of men take leases of plots of land and build cottages of slight materials at their own expense, either for residential accommodation or for opening up shops, and when they have occasion to give up the land they pull down the house and carry the materials to their new place of habitation. It is far too much to expect that the cottagers who are ignorant people will take care about the numbers, and the cost of maintaining an agency for their inspection and preservation would be out of all proportion to the importance of the undertaking.

70. *Agency.*—There were 17 superintendents exercising control over seven charges and 15 sub-charges, five out of seven superintendents of charges being also superintendents of as many sub-charges. They were all officials, viz.—

1 Deputy Inspector of Schools.
1 District Engineer.
1 District Board Overseer.
2 Sub-Inspectors of Schools.
1 Inspector of Police.
7 Sub-Inspectors of Police.
4 Head Constables.

From the experience of this census, I am of opinion that the work of the superintendents can best be done by police officers who have control of the *chaukidars*, know the country intimately, and alone can exercise influence over the people. Without them the census would be a costly failure, and other departmental officials have ultimately to fall back on the police for support. It is a material hindrance to educational work to employ the Sub-Inspectors on census duty, and in one or two instances the result was not quite satisfactory. Practically the District Magistrate with the aid of the District Superintendent and Subdivisional Officer and the agency of the police can do the work best, and in any case the police force must be the mainstay of the undertaking. Of course the supervisors would be taken from the village population. Under the superintendents there were 197 supervisors and 3,259 enumerators, including those employed for taking the census of boats and travellers on roads. The supervisors were selected from among chief *gurus*, school-masters, *naibs*, petty *talukdars* and such other intelligent residents. Among the 14 superintendents within the municipalities, 11 were native gentlemen who were either municipal commissioners, pleaders or Government pensioners. Three of them were European gentlemen, residents of this town. The supervisors and enumerators were the best available educated and intelligent men. It should be noted here that to procure gratuitous work from a better class of men got for the census of the municipality in close proximity with the town of Calcutta where enumerators were amply paid, involved no small amount of difficulty and trouble. This mode of recruiting the supervisors was determined upon at a meeting held in my cutcherry on the 10th October 1890, at which were present among others the Subdivisional Officer, the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Howrah, and the Inspector of Police, Ulubaria. The enumerators were taken from *panchayets*, shop-keepers, and other intelligent villagers. Their nomination rested chiefly with the supervisors, but the appointment *parwanas* were issued under my signature, except those for the subdivision, which the Subdivisional Officer was especially authorized to sign. As the supervisors were primarily responsible for the work within their circles, it was but fair that they should be allowed to choose their own enumerators. Every care was, however, taken to select such of the villagers as were both willing and efficient.

71. Nearly all the supervisors and enumerators were willing, and performed their work satisfactorily. Eight enumerators were prosecuted for refusing or neglecting to do their work, and five of these were convicted and fined, whilst the rest of the cases were withdrawn. The

cases were not of much importance, but I thought it at the time desirable to take prompt notice of them in order to prevent the contagion spreading. The villagers mostly consider themselves honoured when selected by Government to perform an important function, and I think that this feeling, conjoined with the prospect thrown out to the best of the enumerators, of a few appointments in the census compilation office in this district, had much to do in inducing them to take up the work and do it with an alacrity which was certainly creditable. It is a noticeable feature that so much time and trouble were expended by the workers *gratis* and with so much readiness for the most part. No doubt the knowledge that Government had ordered the census was sufficient in the rural parts of the district to secure a ready obedience without any thought of grumbling.

72. As previously indicated in paragraph 64 of this report, the cost of materials for marking the houses and of paper for preparing the draft block lists was defrayed by the supervisors. A few of them have charged for the expenses thus incurred. The majority of the supervisors have, however, made no charges at all.

73. The work of enumeration was wholly done by an unpaid agency, except in the Ulubaria subdivision, where two enumerators were paid Rs. 2 each under Census Superintendent's No. 751, dated 8th February 1891, but the clerical work entailed by the census being too heavy for the ordinary establishment of Howrah to be able satisfactorily to cope with it, two clerks on a salary of Rs. 10 a month were entertained at the head-quarters from the middle of December; and a third clerk on the same pay was employed in the subdivision from the 21st January last. The pay bills of these clerks amounted to Rs. 63-13-10.

74. *Attitude of the people.*—The ignorant classes of the people were suspicious but not obstructive. Not a single case was reported from either the sadar or subdivisional charges, where the owners or occupiers of houses had refused reasonable access to the enumerators or had refused to answer questions put by them. Two cases of an unimportant character occurred in the Howrah Municipality, where the enumerators had been insulted while discharging their duties, but as they were both settled out of court no remarks are necessary. In fact the recent census being the third of its kind taken in these provinces, the people have grown accustomed to it, and they do not now look upon it with that amount of consternation which they might have evinced on former occasions; yet there is said to have been an impression among the lower orders that such operations are only a prelude to the imposition of a new tax.

75. *Correctness of results.*—The entries are, I believe, as a rule correct. The preliminary enumeration, as has already been said, was completed in good time, so as to leave ample time for the entries being checked by the supervisors and superintendents, nearly all of whom took a real interest in the work. While on tour, I myself examined many test-slips and enumeration books, and from what I saw, I consider that the work is free from any material error. I would here note that one's previous impressions as to the relative quality of census work done in the backward and advanced parts of the district, respectively, were not borne out by the facts. One would expect the enumeration of the more advanced parts to be the best done, but the reverse was the case. The most neat and carefully prepared schedule books were those of the most remote and backward *thanas*, and those nearer to Howrah and containing more educated persons were the worst, Howrah itself taking the palm for slovenliness and want of care. The best *thana* was that of Syampur to the extreme south of the district, and its schedules were for the most part copper-plate models of neatness. It is not, therefore, according to the experience of this district that the rural and somewhat uneducated localities suffer in the least in the quality of census work, as compared with the advanced areas, but as a rule show a better result. I do not, however, mean to say that the work in the town of Howrah and the adjoining thanas is not fairly accurate.

76. *Increase or decrease of population.*—The following comparative table shows the increase or decrease of population in this district since the census of 1881:—

Thanas.	Census of 1881.	Census of 1891.	Increase per cent.
1	2	3	4
Dumjor	128,477	147,749	14·9
Jagatballabhpur	77,539	85,241	9 9
Amta	109,968	120,632	9·6
Bagnan	63,563	68,832	8·2
Ulubaria	81,345	87,696	7·8
Syampur	68,861	77,755	13·0
Howrah Municipality including Bally ...	105,628	133,306	25·9
Total excluding municipalities ...	529,753	587,905	10·9
„ including ditto ...	635,381	721,211	13·4

There has thus been an increase of population in every *thana* in this district. The Census returns of 1881 showed a falling off of 4·28 per cent. in the population of Jagatballabhpur and of ·15 per cent. in that of Amta as compared with the returns of the previous census. Not only is this falling off not now observable, but a fair percentage of increase has been attained in respect of these *thanas*. This is mainly attributable to the absence of any mortality from famine or epidemics of late years. The opening out of a canal through the Jagatballabhpur and Amta *thanas* has noticeably increased the population of the *thanas* by adding materially to the population of the villages through which the canal passes. The same is to be said of the Bagnan *thana*. The high percentage of increase for Dumjor *thana* is due as much to the natural tendency to the multiplication of population as to the fact that, being in the close neighbourhood of the head-quarters, many new families have settled within its jurisdiction. The increase of population in Ulubaria and Syampur may be due to normal causes. The municipalities owe their increase to the commercial and manufacturing industries which attract every year an ever-increasing number of labourers from different parts of the country, and particularly from Bihar.

77. *Male and Female population.*—The following shows the totals of male and female population in this district:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Dumjor ...	75,870	71,879	147,749
Jagatballabhpur ...	40,197	45,044	85,241
Amta ...	55,149	65,483	120,632
Bagnan ...	32,754	36,078	68,832
Ulubaria ...	43,313	44,383	87,696
Syampur ...	37,615	40,140	77,755
Howrah Municipality	70,477	46,129	116,606
Bally ditto	9,515	7,185	16,700

It is thus seen that there is an excess of the female above the male population in *thanas* outside the municipalities, Dumjor alone excepted. The reason for the female element preponderating in rural tracts seems to be that a great many of the male population in them resort to various towns for employment, leaving their wives behind at home. The same reason explains the number of males being greater in the municipalities than that of females. No particular cause can be assigned for the male element preponderating in Dumjor *thana*, but its contiguity to the municipality may have something to do with it. Taking the district as a whole, however, a preponderance of 5,848 males is observable over the female population. But when it is considered that the number of male immigrants is greater by far than that of female immigrants, it may reasonably be surmised that the totals of the *fixed* male and female population are about identical.

*Abstraction.**

78. *Starting of work.*—The abstraction office was opened in the Howrah Town Hall on the 1st of April 1891 with two gangs of abstractors under seven room supervisors, with one record-keeper, an Inspector's clerk, and one duftry—all under the guidance of one Inspector, who joined the office duties on the 7th idem. The abstractors were selected from those who were reported to be very useful supervisors or enumerators. Every attention was paid to redeem the promise made to them in their letter of appointment if the applicants were found thoroughly competent. When such men were not available, candidates with High School and University education were got. Services of a B.A. were got in the office, and he worked thoroughly satisfactorily. The sheets I, VII, X and XI were first issued, sheets VIII and IX being taken in hand, issued later on.

79. *Abstraction sheets.*—The following remarks seem necessary on the vernacular sheets and forms which were used for abstraction. In sheet I the column of *infant* and one year, as well as those for age-periods 45 to 50 and downwards, were such as to mislead the abstractor's hand in putting the ticks under those heads. The sheets contained big lots, and there being only one line kept for each of these age-periods instead of two, as in the case of the remaining ones, the Bengali-knowing abstractor might put the tick for *infant* in the column for one year, and so on. Such intermixture of ticks might cause grave mistakes. In some cases such mistakes were detected and rectified then and there. The room supervisors were warned to pay special attention to this point. In sheet III, instructions to transcribe the occupations as they were in the schedules, and prevention to aim at combination of identical occupation or anything of the kind lengthened the task on the sheet, and consequently entailed hard labour on the abstractors. In sheet X, a tick was to be put for a man literate, both in English and Vernacular, in the column of English. This caused a deficiency of one tick in the column of Vernacular, for two ticks were not allowed for one man, as it would have caused a variance of grand totals with other sheets. It therefore appears proper that the information as to English-knowing should be gathered in a different sheet to be used along with sheet X, as sheet VII is worked with sheet I, or by providing a third column for those who are literate both in English and Vernacular. The important statistics under the head of English-knowing may thus be correctly elicited, and the number of persons knowing Vernacular and English may also be accurately obtained. The R form

* *Vide* letters Nos. 273C and 295C, dated 16th January 1892 and 14th April 1892 respectively, from W. Fiddian, Esq. Magistrate of Howrah, to the Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal.

was the Gordian knot in the abstractor's work. The closeness of the lines in R form making small squares hardly enough to contain two digits, and particularly necessitating a strain on the abstractor's eyes, added much to his terror about it.

80. *Test slip.*—The test slips were very useful. Their preparation was worth the time and labour spent upon them. The usefulness of the test slip would have been doubly increased if they had contained a specification of castes from sheets II, X and XI. This deficiency of caste test in the test slip was much felt, and had to be made up by the elaborate method of intercomparison. The test slip should, however, have scope for entries from caste sheets, *i.e.*, the number of caste and population of each caste from schedules. If this were so, the discrepancies of caste sheets could have been rectified earlier than done, and tabulation had not to wait for the completion of intercomparison even after adjustment of all the sheets.

81. *Method of abstraction.*—The records of *thana* Dumjor were first re-sorted into packets of 5,000, and were issued out for abstraction in a regular order. The *thanas* that were taken up next in succession were Jagatbullabhpur, Ulubaria, Amta, Bagnan and Syampur. The two municipalities of Howrah and Bali were taken in hand last of all. The cyclical and methodical advance of the main packets from one sheet to another was thoroughly observed and practically carried out. Such were the principles laid down by the Census Superintendent in the circulars for the conduct of work, that, if one man lagged behind, the work of the whole office would tend to come towards a fix. Therefore from among the whole staff, the best four were picked out for filling up the posts of test slips and R. form clerks. This prevented a good deal of difficulties at the very outset. By the time circular No. 63 on the subject of employing four extra clerks on this duty came to hand, test slips and R. forms advanced *parri passu* with the abstraction sheets. The abstraction of municipal work came last of all when the training of the abstractors was sufficient to enable them to get on with work easily. The abstraction of Howrah was completed on the 3rd July. The quarter million population of Burdwan, which was made over to this office, was then taken up and completed on the 31st July. An announcement to the effect of the closing of abstraction work of Howrah was considered by the Census Superintendent a point for publication in his circular No. 82.

82. *Task.*—In five hours, full task in all sheets was generally accomplished by the abstractors, who got a training for a day or two in the work. The work of new men often lagged behind, and such arrangement was made in the office as might not entail any extra expenditure or interfere with the cyclical order of the work. This was made up by extra hours work in the morning and evening. The manner in which the task was adjusted and prescribed by circular No. 42 made nobody's situation in the office enviable to his neighbour. It must be noted, however, that the practicability of performing the full task as prescribed by the circular was hardly applicable to the majority of the *thanas* of the district of Howrah; and in order to realize the full task on all the sheets, special attention was paid to the distribution of abstractors according to the requirement of the work, such as the more intelligent men were put on sheets I and XI, and the rest on the remaining sheets, the more hardworking among the latter being put to sheets II, III, and X. Whenever this order was disturbed by reason of absence or otherwise, difficulties arose, and the room supervisor bitterly complained of the new men, as he was responsible for the full and accurate task in his room. In no case, however, the cyclical order was allowed to be disturbed, and such temporary difficulties were got over by overtime work and help of apprentices. In consideration of the enormity of the task in the municipalities and *thanas* adjoining them by reason of a large variety of religions, occupations, castes and sub-castes, a few apprentices were employed before the question of doing so was raised in circular No. 63. They acted as relieving hands, and their number was highest when the work of the Howrah Municipality was going on. It need hardly be said that the basis on which the dimensions of work were calculated for the districts of Bengal, was wholly inadequate in regard to the Howrah Municipality. The enormously large variety of occupations and excessively wide range of castes and sub-castes, thwarted the efforts of the abstractors to bring up each day's work, and necessitated the appointment of two additional men on sheet XI, two on sheets IV and V, and two on sheet III. The Census Superintendent's sanction was obtained to this arrangement, which was necessitated by the unique circumstances of the town of Howrah.

83. *Remarks.*—It seems very proper to employ the whole staff of abstractors on the easier sheets at first, and then gradually to advance to the more difficult and intricate ones. The advantage of the other method of each abstractor acquiring a facility in his own sheet by continuous employment on that sheet was not practically gained, for the percentage of absentees was large enough, and requisition for trained men for a different section of work was constant enough, to necessitate changes very often. The newness of work was therefore often felt. There arises a question, however, that if sheets IV, V, VI and VII be the only ones for abstraction at first, and none of the sheet I or XI be attempted, the true population of each schedule-book may not be had in many cases, for the enumerators were found in the course of making the preliminary enumeration to fill in the age column more fully than any other. It, therefore, appears proper to start at least either of the sheets I and XI along with the easier ones by the more intelligent men.

Re-abstraction.

84. *Staff.*—Circular No. 42 provided for 14 re-abstractors for the Howrah office. These men were selected from those who got an insight into the nature of the abstraction work, and who made fewer mistakes in their work. Re-abstraction was begun on 20th April, and it was

found that the proportion of re-abstracting staff was not equal to the quantity of re-abstraction required.

85. *Method.*—The system of passing a sheet for re-abstraction by the Inspector on his finding a disagreement of the grand totals, was in itself defective, for grand totals might agree in many cases in which sub-totals widely differed. Then, again, to pass a schedule for re-abstraction, keeping aside the abstracted sheets, and not for re-examination, led to a good deal of unproductive labour. A later circular drew the attention of the Inspector to the inspection of sub-totals. This circular removed one difficulty, but another difficulty continued to exist in the following shape; that is, at the end of each re-abstraction a sheet would not be pronounced thoroughly accurate. It necessitated such repetition of work that nobody could practically comprehend when to stop, for the re-abstractors were as much liable to error as the abstractors, and the one is likely to commit a blunder where the other was right, and *vice versâ*.

86. *Adjustment.*—The circular No. 1554C., on the system of adjustment offered the saving clause, and was received at a time when something of the kind was eagerly expected for progress of that work. If the sheet I was thoroughly tested and raised to such eminence that it could be made the basis of so small a correction as one per cent. on the other sheets, there cannot be the least manner of doubt as to their accuracy. This process of re-abstraction was adopted and found to work so well that it bore the test of all inspection, and with the practice of a week the re-abstractors became efficient men to touch at one hit the point where the mistake lay. The revised scale of their pay and the offer of reward from the abstractor's fine added stimulus to the work. It must, however, be stated that the eyes of the supervising staff should be constantly on the work of the re-abstractors, whose very minute deviation from the prescribed principle might spoil the thoroughly accurate nature of work. The limit of adjustment was not required to be exceeded in most cases for the purpose of correction. When the mistake exceeded the limit of correction allowed by the adjustment, the schedule was re-abstracted. According to this principle, about 15 per cent. of abstraction sheets required re-abstraction. The re-abstraction was begun 16 days after the abstraction, and lasted for 16 days after the abstraction was over.

Tabulation.

87. *Staff.*—Considerable delay occurred in the re-abstraction work for reasons specified above, and sufficient number of blocks for starting tabulation was ready much later on than it was anticipated in circular No. 42. When the adjustment system was enforced the abstractors, and re-abstractors' work pressed so hard upon the adjustment clerks that the second room-supervisors from sheets I to XI were withdrawn one after the other and put to the adjustment work in order that a sufficient number of blocks might be ready for tabulation. In the second week of June, 14 tabulators were engaged, and on the last week of the month the number was increased to 28. On the completion of the abstraction and re-abstraction of the quarter-million population of Burdwan, *i.e.*, on the 19th of August, the whole staff of abstractors were set to tabulation according to circular No. 85. The principle of engaging each clerk to tabulate from the same sheet as he was employed in abstracting was particularly adhered to and found very advantageous.

88. *Method.*—The tabulation was begun like the abstraction from the rural *thanas* to the municipalities. In tabulation, the *thanas* were also taken in hand in the same order in which they were abstracted. In the latter part of August, when the highest number of tabulators were at work, more than one *thana* had to be issued at a time. The tabulation of the municipalities came last of all. The tabulators' work in all registers was begun just as it was intended by circular No. 68 for the synchronous termination of each register, which, however, could hardly be maintained for the various degree of progress made in the several registers. The tabulation of Howrah was completed on the 4th of September, including the tabulation of the *thanas* Kaksa, Ketugram, and Raneegunge, and the totalling forms W, Y, S, and Z, the last of which was checked by the Inspector and the Assistant Inspectors in the course of a few days more.

89. *Task.*—The tabulators' work was not considered easy, and a huge cry was raised against the task prescribed by circular No. 68, subsequently modified by circular No. 78 of 16th June. This modification was also liable to complaint, but the full task was enforced by strict office rules. Whenever the task limit fell short in the case of any tabulator, he suffered it at the sacrifice of pay which was now based on task done. It may be that the task of tabulation was not uniformly severe in all districts, for the severity depended on the number of registers that had to be opened in consequence of a variety of religions and the length of registers required for tabulating a block in consequence of a wide range of castes, sub-castes, birth-districts, &c. In respect of this branch of the tabulation work, the district of Howrah was under a great disadvantage. A tabulator on Howrah work could hardly accomplish the task prescribed by the circular. The fact was reported to the Census Superintendent, and the tabulators demurred to the arrangement of paying them on task system instead of the monthly rate of Rs. 15. The approximate outturn of work of each clerk per day on each register is shown below:—

Register.	In the beginning.	At the end.
I to VI, A, B, C. ...	... 10 sheets	... 17 sheets.
VII ...	... 20 „	... 29 „
VIII and IX ...	... 85 „	... 35 „
XV A, B. ...	... 19 „	... 22 „
XIX ...	... 21 „	... 19 „
XX ...	... 20 „	... 15 „

It will be seen that the task on registers I to VI, A, B, C., VII and XV gradually increased and the other registers decreased. The order in which the *thanas* were taken in hand for tabulation makes it clear that the amount of work on the former registers increased by causing overtime work by the tabulators, who now acquired greater facility, but on the latter registers materials for tabulation per block were large enough per each municipal block to justify a diminution of outturn. This, however, affected the pay of the tabulators, who were induced to work extra hours in order that the loss might not tell upon them.

90. *Totalling Forms.*—The circular No. 79 on the totalling forms came to hand on the 2nd July. The forms came later on. This stupendous work was commenced at once by the experts of the office, and the progress made by them was a cause of alarm against early completion of the work. The circular prescribed no definite task for them : a monthly reward was only promised in the circular for the best men who could prepare them from their own registers. To complete the day's task on the tabulation registers XIV, XV, XIX, and XX, in addition to the preparation of the totalling forms W, Y, S, and Z, was found impracticable. Difficult as the forms were, the tabulators could hardly do any portion of it in the course of the day, after completing the day's task in the registers. Very great attention had to be paid to the work, and a small amount of extra charge was unavoidable for their preparation. The long additions required in the figures of the totalling forms led to mistakes, and so the best tabulators were taught the principle of addition by means of numerical balls. This system produced thoroughly accurate result, converting the whole operation of addition almost to a mere mechanical skill. The difficulty of work in totalling forms of the municipalities and most of the *thanas* of Howrah led us to conclude that it was a mistake to class Howrah with the other outlying districts of Bengal in point of task. The work of the district of Burdwan, which was done through this office, bore out the truth of this statement. Though the estimate of task and establishment found applicable to Burdwan were wholly inadequate, for the Howrah Municipality and the adjoining *thanas*, in which caste, sub-caste and occupation sheets from which totalling forms are prepared, are vastly in excess of the average of other districts.

91. *Registers.*—As for the registers, I beg to observe that if the forms were bound like the enumerators' schedules of four different sizes to suit exactly the requirements of the number of blocks to be tabulated together, the work on the registers would have been done more neatly and finished more quietly.

92. *Special additional work of the district of Burdwan.*—On the 24th June 1891 a quarter-million population of 1,314 blocks of *thanas* Kaksa, Ketugram, and Raniganj, of the district of Burdwan, was made over to this office for abstraction and tabulation. The abstraction of these *thanas* was begun just when the abstraction of Howrah was completed, and the tabulation was done simultaneously with the Howrah work, which all was finished on the 4th of September last. The second instalment of work received from Burdwan on the 24th September 1891 was sent here for tabulation only in registers I to XX, excepting the registers XVI and XVII of the following *thanas*, consisting of 2,654 blocks, viz., *thanas* Satgachia, Ausgram, Boodbud, Mongolekote, Assensole and the Municipality of Raniganj. This work was commenced on the 28th of September with four gangs of tabulators. Another gang was added to the number in the second week, by whom the whole was completed. The office remained closed from the 8th to 18th on account of Durga Pujah, during when all the tabulators were discharged. A third instalment of work received from the Magistrate of Burdwan, under the instructions of the Census Superintendent, on the 9th November 1891, for tabulation in registers XIV, XV, XIX, and XX with totalling forms, consisted of about 4,000 blocks of the following *thanas*, viz., *thanas* Kaksa, Khandaghose, Monteswar, Jamalpur, Purbasthali, Burdwan, Shahebganj, Raona and the municipalities of Kalna, Dainhat, Manker, Burdwan, and Katwa. This work was begun on the 13th November, and was completed on the 13th December when this office was finally closed. In these cases full task was turned out by most tabulators.

93. *Pay.*—The abstractor's pay of Rs. 12 a month was not in itself a sufficient inducement for people to accept the post. The best enumerators who would have accepted a post for a little higher pay did not come. It may be that some of those who came to the work did not deserve a higher rate of pay, but the entertainment of such men was to some extent detrimental to the quality of the work. If the pay be raised to Rs. 15 instead of Rs. 18 as proposed, better men will surely be had, for census work in a metropolitan district in that case will not necessitate much of re-abstraction and adjustment. The cost at the same time will be moderate. In Howrah, the total expenditure on abstraction, paying at Rs. 12 a month, was Rs. 2,168-3 6. The cost of re-abstraction and adjustment was Rs. 749-12-6. If the abstractors were paid at Rs. 15 a month, and if that work had not required re-abstraction and adjustment, the total cost would have been Rs. 2,710-4-4. Of this rate, Rs. 3 per clerk may be held back until the work is finally tested. Any re-abstractor might be paid for out of the withheld pay. Thus it will be observed that the cost of work, paying at Rs. 15 a month, will be advantageous in the long run, for if the rate was raised to Rs. 18, the cost of one million population would have been Rs. 3,252-5-3, thus exceeding the amount spent for abstraction, re-abstraction, and adjustment by over Rs. 300. The tabulators should be a better staff of men than could be had for Rs. 15 a month, and may be paid at Rs. 18 a month to ensure a much better quality of work. Tabulators were found to complain of the system of engaging two persons on the same register, one being writer and the other the reader. Either of the two was led to complain of the slowness of the other. If all the tabulators be of a superior class of men, it is supposed that they may be better engaged singly on each register.

94. *Cost.*—In the whole administration of this office special attention was paid to saving of cost. The chief saving of cost was effected in tabulation by having always 400 to 600 persons (according to the dimension of blocks) in each abstraction sheet. The tabulators were paid on task system; and if each book had been abstracted in each sheet, the cost of tabulation would have been larger than charged for. There was then also a saving of forms, for the indent and use of which every care was taken, and at the end of each work there were either only a few forms of each kind or none at all left. Other savings of small amounts were also effected in staff and office expenditure, and a considerable saving was made by withholding rewards to the abstractors and room-supervisors for their least shortcoming. This office has also earned a considerable contribution from the municipalities, viz., from Howrah Municipality Rs. 471-13, and Bali Municipality Rs. 67-3-6. It must be noticed here that letter No. 3378 allowed expenditure for four months on abstraction and tabulation. This office lasted a few days over five months, within which time the entire work of the *thanas* Kaksa, Ketugram, and Raniganj of the district of Burdwan was finished. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 6,146-9-10, contingencies and house-rent excepted. The amount includes the cost of the said three *thanas* of Burdwan. The expenditure therefore divides for the district of Howrah and the said *thanas* of Burdwan, as follows:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Howrah	4,529	1	5
Burdwan	1,617	8	5

The cost of the tabulation work of the 13 more *thanas* and 5 municipalities of Burdwan, the work of which lasted from the 28th September to 12th November, and 13th November to 12th December, was Rs. 1,640-13-2.

W S.—Reg. No. 1151J—90—9-7-94.